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夢使い 6

YUME TSUKAI

RUICHI UESHIBA PRESENTS

植芝理一

アフタヌーン KC 1156

夢使い 6

植芝理一

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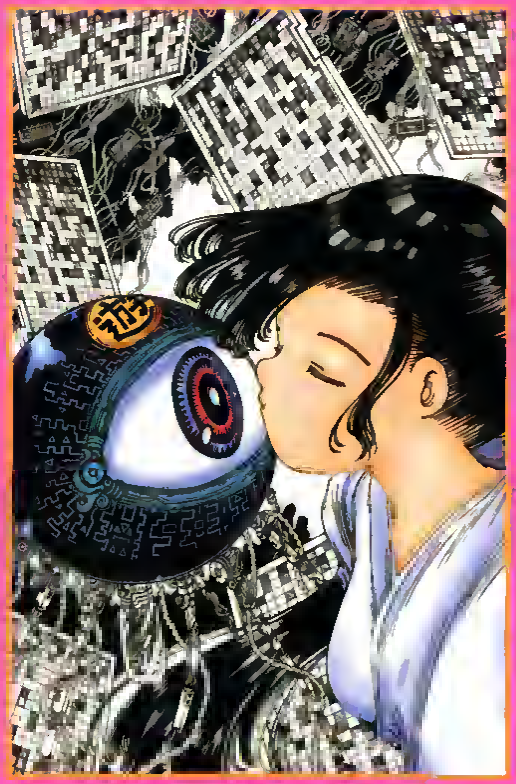

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KC
1156

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6

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CHAPTER 14
STAR SEED

THE GIRL... IN THE STONE...?

POINT
ONE
SEVEN
AH...
EH?!
SMEAR

A MEMORY FROM WHEN YOU AND RURU WERE CHILDREN...
THE MEMORY OF WHAT YOU SAW THAT NIGHT...
THAT WAS FORGOTTEN AND SEALED AWAY BECAUSE YOU WERE UNSURE WHETHER IT WAS REAL OR JUST A DREAM...
I CAN HEAR A VOICE... INSIDE MY HEAD!
WH... WHAT?

REMEMBER...
チッチッチッ…

GINJU...
MMM...
GINJU, WAKE UP...
GINJU...

RURU...
EH?
BUT...
I'M ABOUT TO...
TURN BACK INTO A STONE... INTO JUNK.
I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP TONIGHT...
I'M SCARED TO TURN BACK...
BREATHE SOME LIFE INTO ME...
INTO A ROCK AND STOP MOVING...

I GOT IT!
OKAY,
AND THE LORD GOD FORMED MAN OF THE DUST AND GROUND
AND BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE
AND MAN BECAME A LIVING SOUL.
!

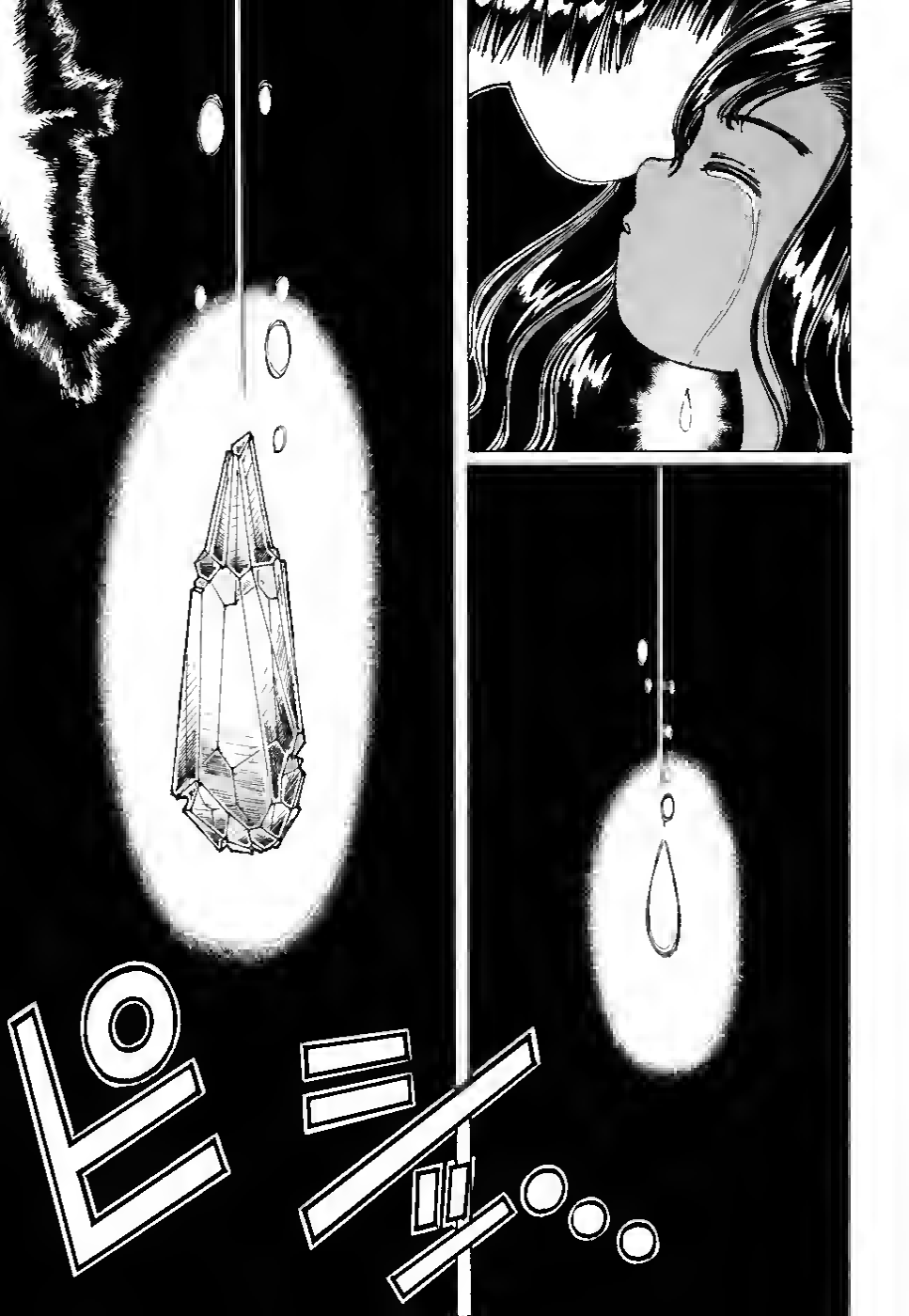
RURU...
CAN I PRESS MY LIPS...
INSTEAD OF YOUR NOSE...
AGAINST YOURS?
EH?
WHAT IS IT?

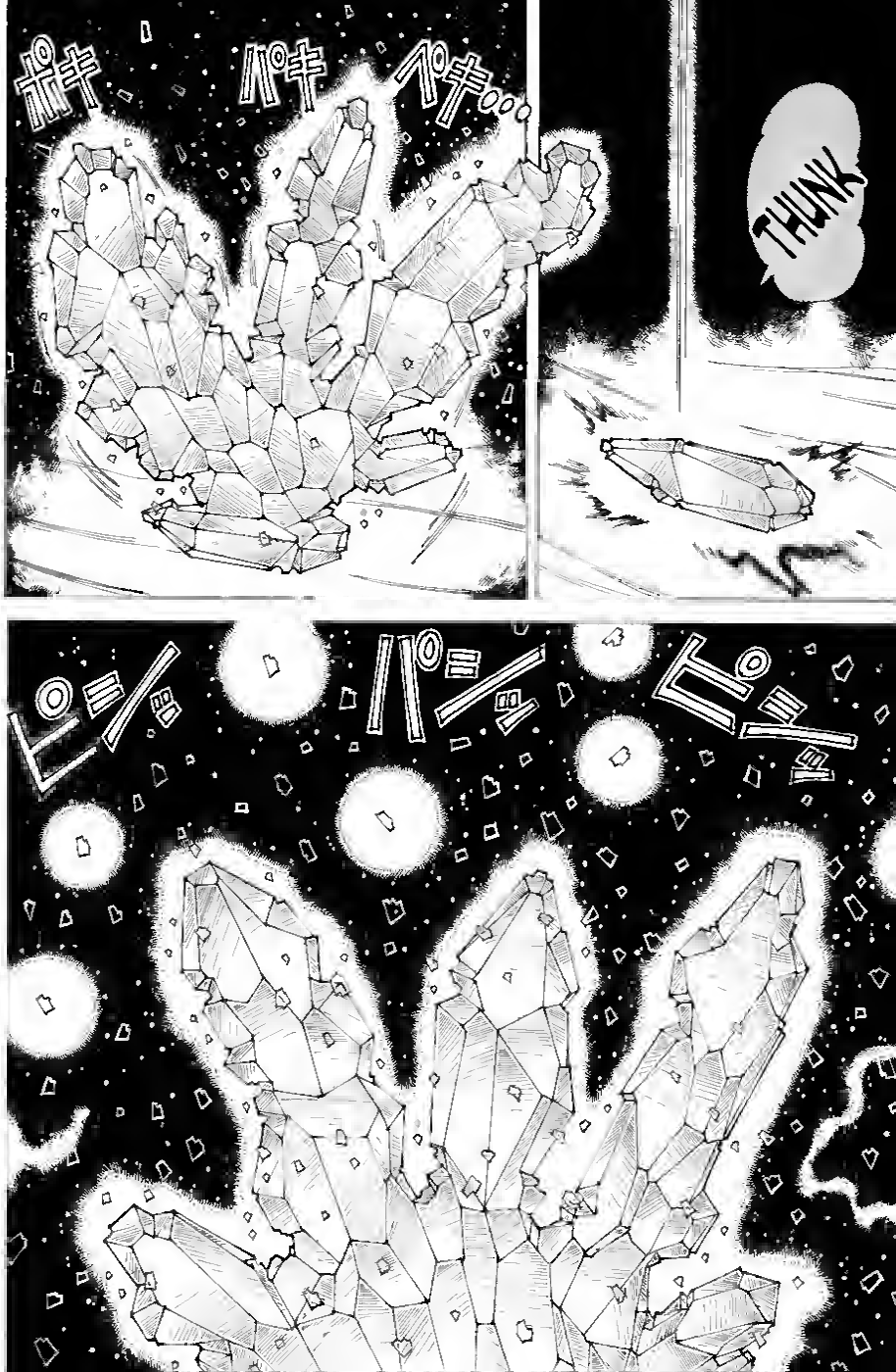
...AH.
EH?!
GO AHEAD!
...AH!
S-SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN THAT!
FATHER TOLD ME OUR LIPS SHOULD NEVER TOUCH!
BECAUSE IT'S "TABOO"!
IF WE DID THAT, WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOU?

YOU...
YOU COULD EVEN DIE..
AND I REALLY DON'T WANT THAT...
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT...
WE CAN'T DO IT NOW..
BUT WHEN WE BOTH GET OLDER..
SOMEDAY IN THE FUTURE..
I WANT YOU TO KISS ME...
AND WHEN YOU DO...
I DON'T CARE EVEN IF I DIE...
PRESS

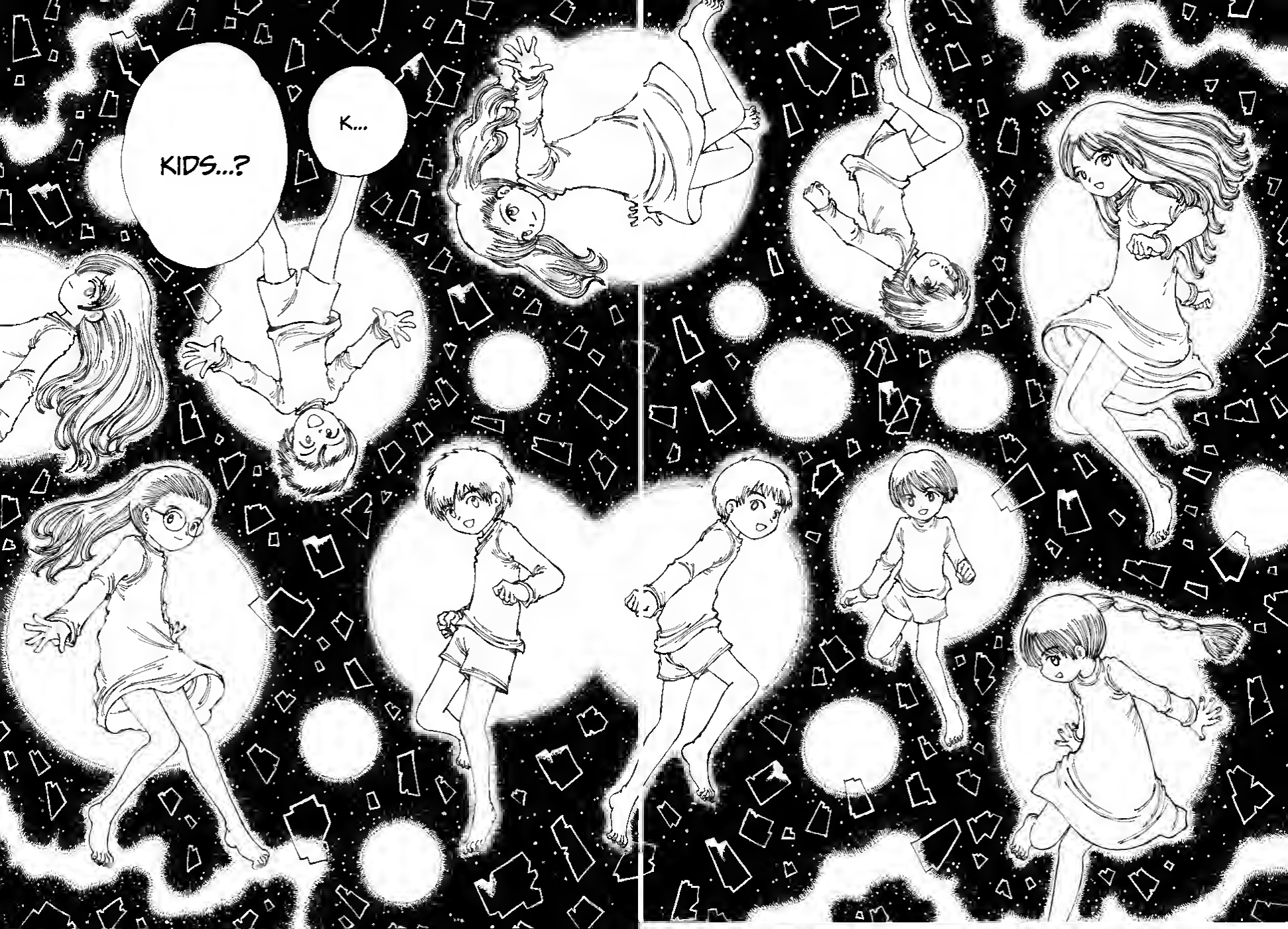
IF THAT HAPPENS...
I'LL DIE WITH YOU...
AS LONG AS WE'RE TOGETHER...
I...
I DON'T CARE EITHER!
RURU...
IT MAY NOT BE ON THE MOUTH...

BUT CAN I KISS YOUR EYE?
THE EYE ISN'T TABOO...
AH...
OKAY!
GO AHEAD...


ヒミィ!!…


ポキ
パキ
パキ…
THUNK
ピキ
パキ
ピキ

YOUR TEAR-DROP..
WH... WHAT!?
YEAH!
DO YOU SEE IT?
LOOK AT EACH BALL OF LIGHT!
GINJU!
I... I SEE IT!


KIDS...?
K...

DO YOU REMEMBER NOW?
ドン

I REMEMBER NOW...
Y... YEAH!
EHH!?
D... DESCEN-DANTS..
I CAN HEAR HER THOUGHTS IN MY HEAD...
T-THE FUTURE...?
EH?
SO YOU'RE...
TELLING ME THOSE KIDS ARE... ME AND RURU'S...
DESCENDANTS WHO WILL BE BORN IN THE FUTURE?

NOD

!!
MAS-
TER!!

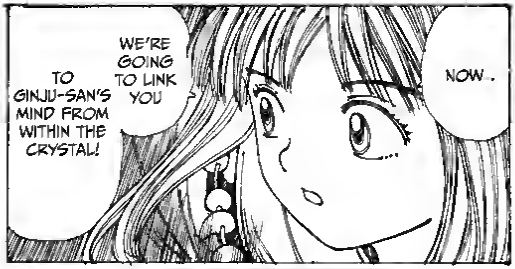
ドン
ヒロ

TOUKO-SAMA!
HAVE YOU FIGURED IT OUT?
THE IDENTITY OF THE BLACK STONE IN RURU-SAN'S CHEST?
I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE!
BUT IF YOU MAKE CERTAIN ASSUMPTIONS...
EVERYTHING EXPLAINS ITSELF!

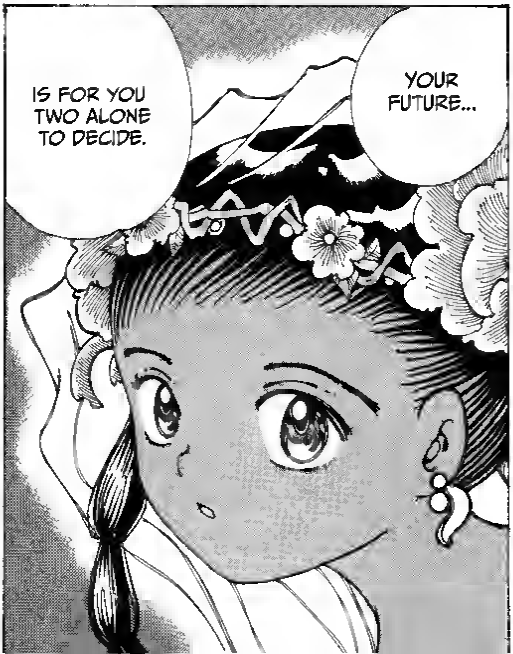
WHEN I WAS IN THE DIORAMA DREAM...
RUINS...
I SAW RUINS OF RELICS I HAD NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
IF THOSE RELICS...
IF WE ASSUME THEY'RE NOT FROM THIS EARTH...

THAT BLACK STONE MIGHT BE...
THE REMAINS OF A LOST CIVILIZATION FROM ANOTHER PLANET SENT TO SPACE...
A TIME CAPSULE OF SORTS.

ARE LIKE SPIRITS THAT FOLLOWED THE STONE...
AND IS CHASING AFTER RURU-SAN...
THAT TOOK GINJU-SAN HOSTAGE
AND THAT GIANT CRYSTAL


TO GINJU-SAN'S MIND FROM WITHIN THE CRYSTAL!
WE'RE GOING TO LINK YOU
NOW.

RURU-SAN!
AH!
YES!


IS FOR YOU TWO ALONE TO DECIDE.
YOUR FUTURE...

SATOKA-CHAN!
TACHIBANA-SAN!
RINKO!
IT'S TIME FOR THE "FUSION" TECHNIQUE!!
THAT MEANS...
ONEE-CHAN!

TICK

SLURP

hrk

RELEASE THE SHIELD ON THE "DREAM CYCLONE" PROGRAM AND SEND IT ASAP!!
MISAKO-SAN!!
DREAM CYCLONE
TOUKO
SATOKA
HAJIME
RINKO
MOON ATTACK
wipe wipe
WHY MUST YOU...
ALWAYS CALL ME WHILE I'M EATING?
Misaka-san♥

Yume Tsukai
Ch. 30 End

NEXT TIME

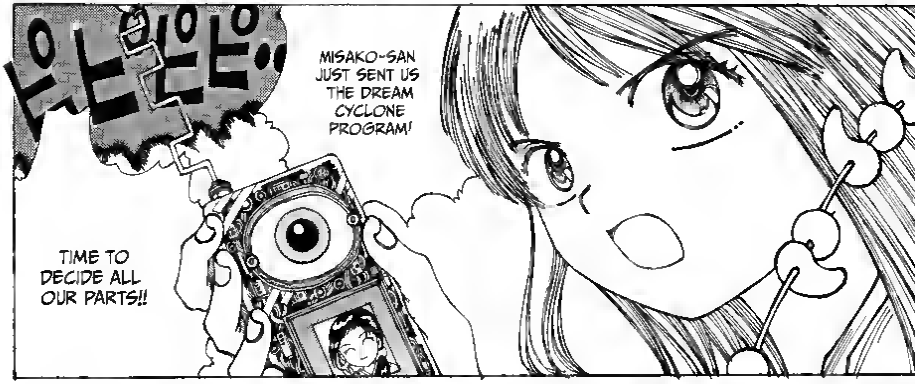
This month, I'm reading the L-Gaim Encyclopedia during breaks. I really like the second opening "No Reply from the Wind". Oh yeah, my former editor Mr. I is getting married in July. Who would have thought? Coming from the guy who sent me a card that said "My only wife is imaginary" for New Years.

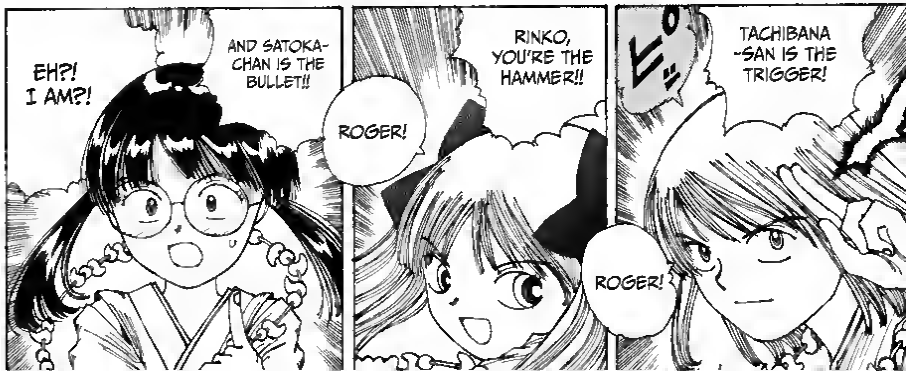
This month's Prize Bird winner is PN. Popo from Ube, Yamaguchi ♪

The Nadesi Hindu tou is cute ♥

CHAPTER 15
TRIGGER ACTION!

着信
ドリーム
サイクロン!
MISAKO
ピピピピピ!!

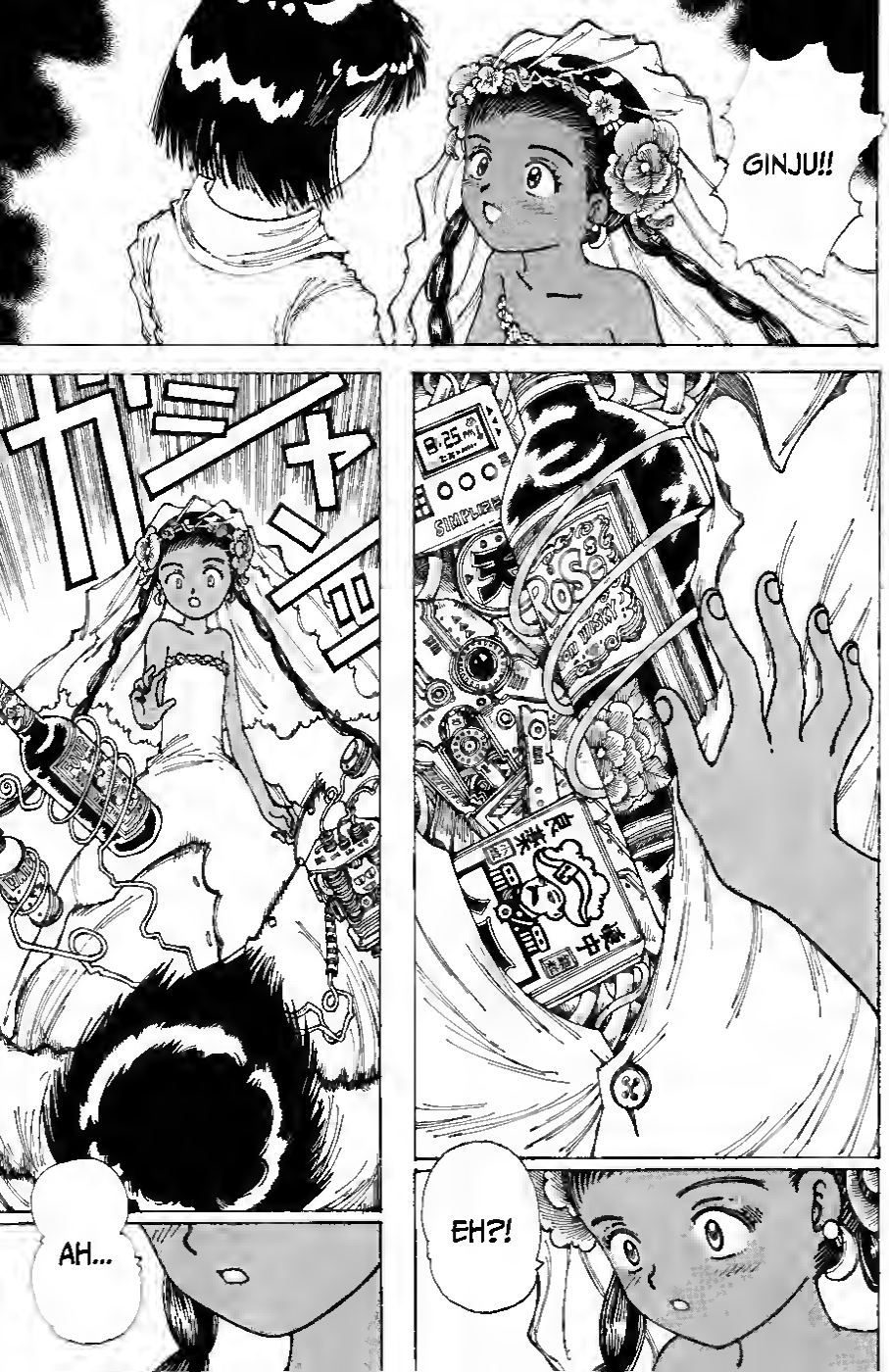

ピピピピ
MISAKO-SAN JUST SENT US THE DREAM CYCLONE PROGRAM!
TIME TO DECIDE ALL OUR PARTS!!


EH?! I AM?!
AND SATOKA-CHAN IS THE BULLET!!
ROGER!
RINKO, YOU'RE THE HAMMER!!
ROGER!
ピッ
TACHIBANA -SAN IS THE TRIGGER!

SHOULDN'T YOU BE THE BULLET?
I NEED TO LINK RURU-SAN WITH GINJU'S THOUGHTS!
SO YOU'LL HAVE TO BE THE BULLET!
O...
OKAY!
Even though this is my first time as the bullet!!
I'LL DO MY BEST!!
RURU-SAN!
I'M GOING TO LINK YOU TO GINJU-SAN'S THOUGHTS NOW!
BUT TO DO THAT
I NEED TO CAST OFF THE CHAINS IN YOUR HEART.
ゴゴゴ…

BEEP
THAT'S RIGHT!
IF WE DON'T BREAK THEM FREE...
THE CHAINS... IN MY HEART?
YOUR THOUGHTS WILL NEVER REACH GINJU-SAN!
GO FORTH!!

AH!!

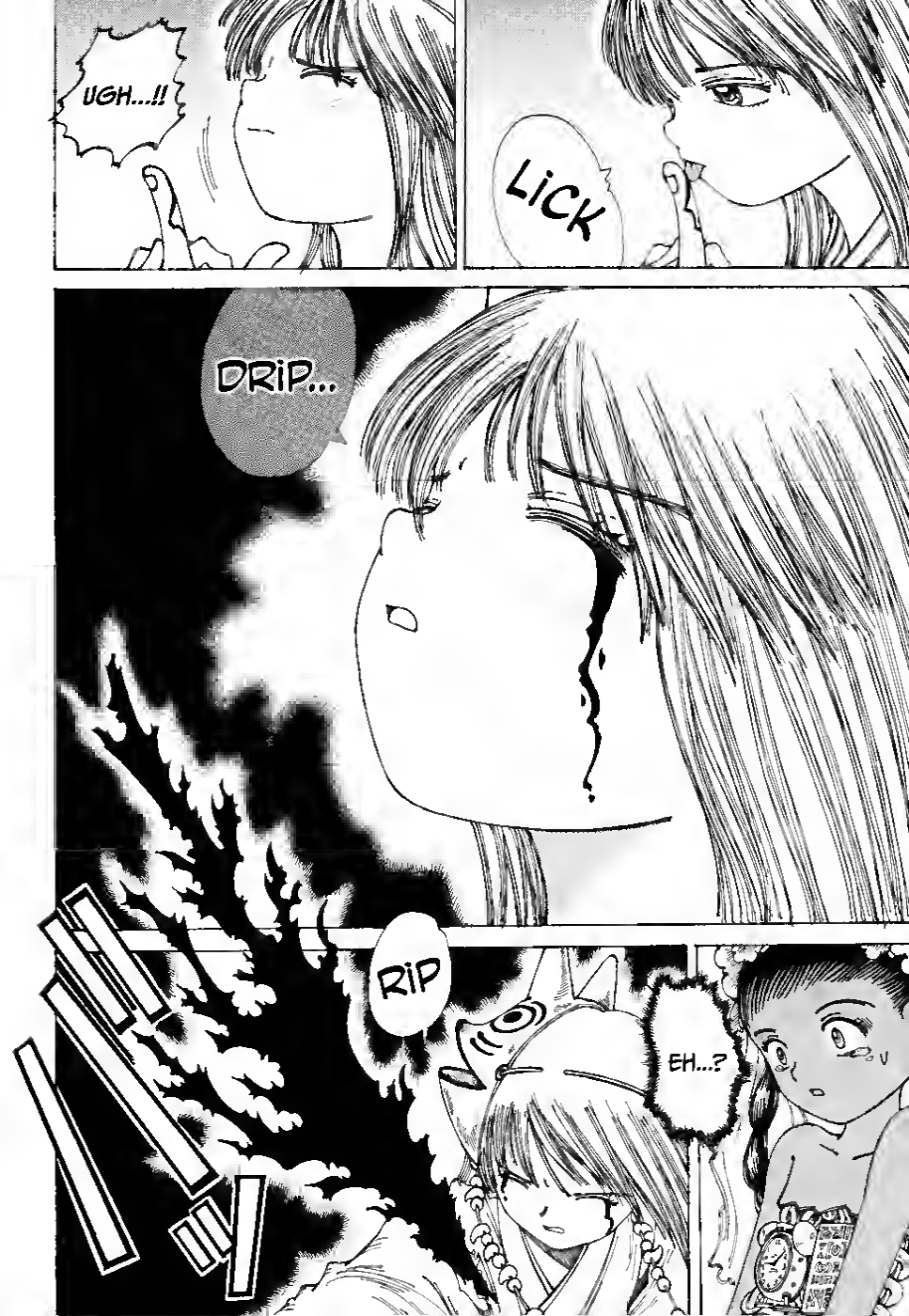

GINJU!!
ガシャ
SIMPLE
Rose
EH?!
AH...

AHHHH!!

I'M SORRY...
I'M SORRY, GINJU...
IT'S... IT'S ALL MY FAULT...
ALL BECAUSE I WANTED TO STAY WITH YOU FOREVER...
BUT... I'M GOING TO END IT ALL HERE..
IF I GIVE UP MY LIFE TO YOU...
YOU CAN BE HUMAN...

STOP!!
RURU-SAN!
DON'T TAKE OUT YOUR STONE HEART!
T... TOUKO-SAN!
THAT'S RIGHT...
GINJU-SAN IS JUST LIKE YOU...
A HUMAN REPLICA MADE OF JUNK...

HE WAS ALSO RECEIVING LIFE ENERGY FROM THE BLACK STONE.
WHEN HE WAS BREATHING LIFE INTO YOU...
IN REALITY...
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO SHOW YOU.
RURU-SAN.
PRICK


UGH...!!
LICK
DRIP...
RIP
EH...?

T...
TOUKO-SAN!!
EH? AH...?!
EEK!

EH...?
SUR-PRISED?
WHAT YOU SEE NOW IS
HOW I WAS FIVE YEARS AGO.
THE PERSON I LOVED...
DIED TRYING TO KEEP ME SAFE.

HIS LAST WORDS WERE "GO AND FIND HAPPINESS."
BUT I DIDN'T.
I COULD NEVER BE HAPPY.
WAS BEING TOGETHER WITH HIM...
BECAUSE WHAT MADE ME HAPPY...

DON'T THINK YOU CAN SAVE GINJU-SAN BY SACRIFICING YOURSELF.
SO DON'T.
BEING WITH THE PERSON HE LOVES...
HE'LL BE THE HAPPIEST...
THE SAME WAY I DID FIVE YEARS AGO.
I'M SURE GINJU-SAN FEELS
NO MATTER WHAT...

OKAY!
LET THE WALLS THAT SEPARATE HEART FROM HEART...
THE CHAINS HAVE BROKEN!

BREAK AWAY!!

RURU!!
GINJU!!
ONE
17
YOU, TOO!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

ギュギュギュ
ドドドド
ドドドド

カチ
GINJU-SAN! RURU-SAN!
THIS TRIGGER WILL FIRE THE DREAM CYCLONE!
MAKE YOUR CHOICE!
DO YOU FOLLOW THE ABE TRADITION..
AND CHOOSE AN ENDLESS LOVE WITHOUT DEATH...
OR A ONE-TIME LOVE
THAT WILL END IN DEATH...

IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE AS THEY DID,
DON'T PULL IT.
IF YOU REJECT YOUR ANCESTOR'S ROUTE...
PULL THE TRIGGER.
THE DECISION...
IS UP TO YOU TWO.
I MET HER JUST NOW...
THE GIRL IN THE STONE IN YOUR CHEST.
EH?
RURU.

SHE TOLD ME...
SHE...
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
EH!?
NOD

YOU CAN TRANSFER INTO A NEW BODY...
AND CONTINUE THIS NEVER-ENDING LOVE, FOREVER.
AFTER ALL...
YOU'RE JUST LIKE RURU...
GINJU...
WON'T YOU FOLLOW THE ABE TRADITION?

FATHER...
IF I CAN BE WITH RURU, I DON'T CARE IF MY TIME COMES SOMEDAY.
BESIDES...
I WANT TO SEE A FUTURE THAT YOU AND OUR ANCESTORS HAVEN'T EVER SEEN!

OKAY!
RURU... LET'S GO!
TOWARD A NEW FUTURE...!
ONE
SEVEN
GRIP

ヒナ
ヒナ
ヒナ

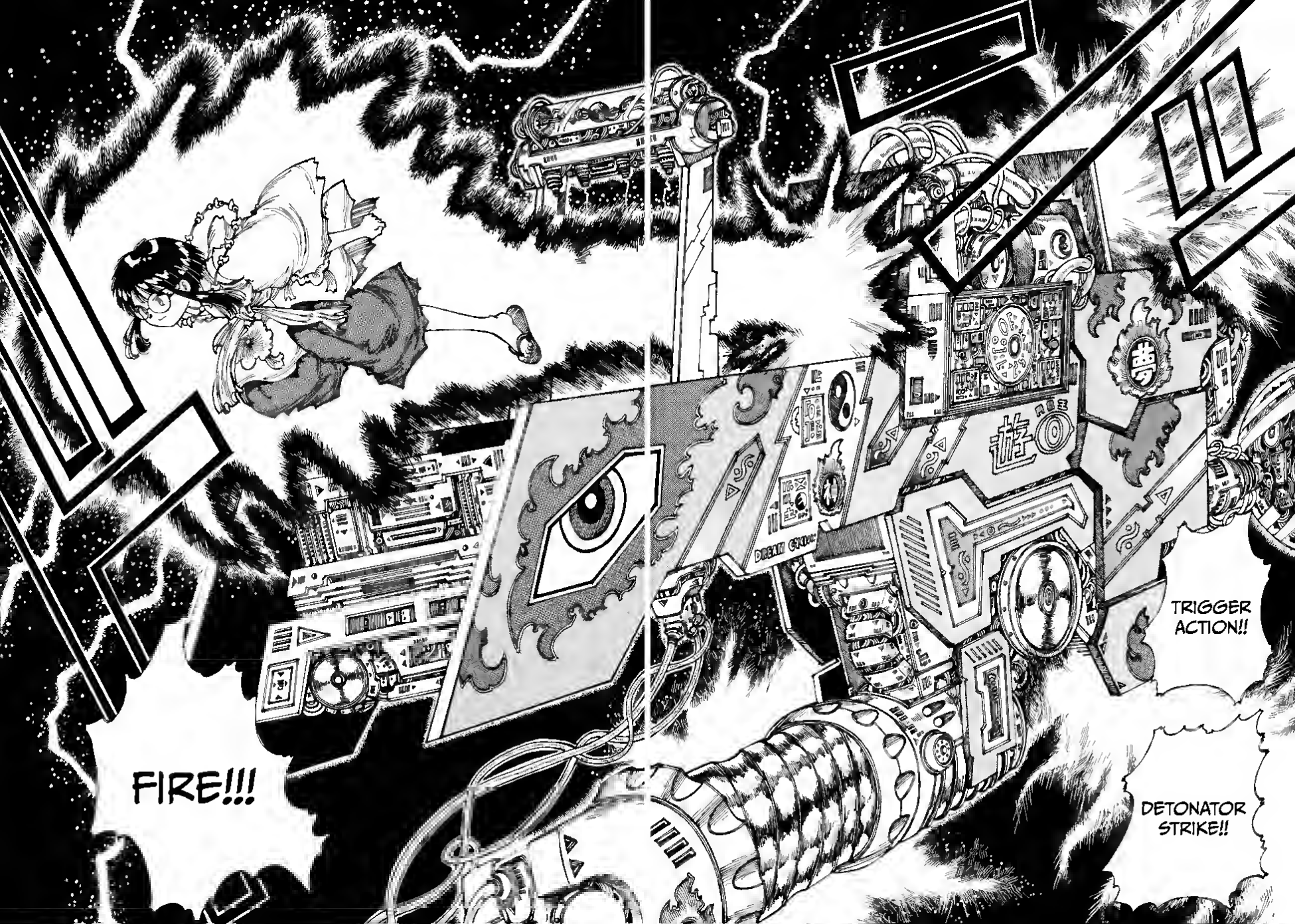
Yume Tsukai Ch 3! End

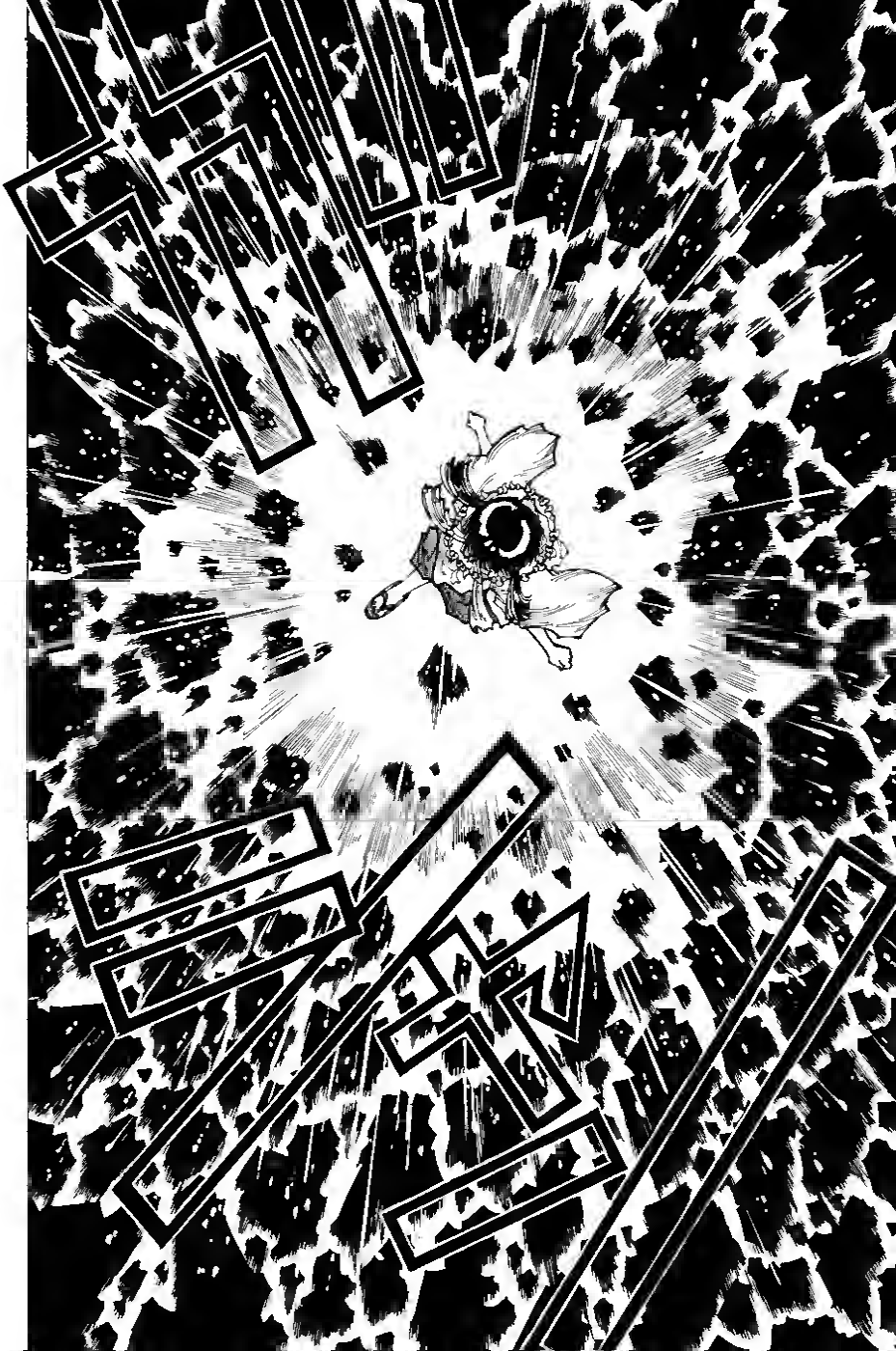
NEXT TIME

Recently whenever my editor gets drunk he starts talking about how great Magical Emi is since there are reruns on cable TV now. That reminds me I used to watch Pastel Yumi a lot. I mean they had those bath scenes every week. (etc) This month Im reading the G Robo art book during breaks. Well, I read that all the time not just this month.

This month's Prize Background is from Kof. Yamanoshi ♪

CHAPTER 16
THE ETERNAL GIRL


FIRE!!!
TRIGGER ACTION!!
DETONATOR STRIKE!!



GINJU-SAN!!
S... SATOKA-SAN!
ONE
7
SEVEN

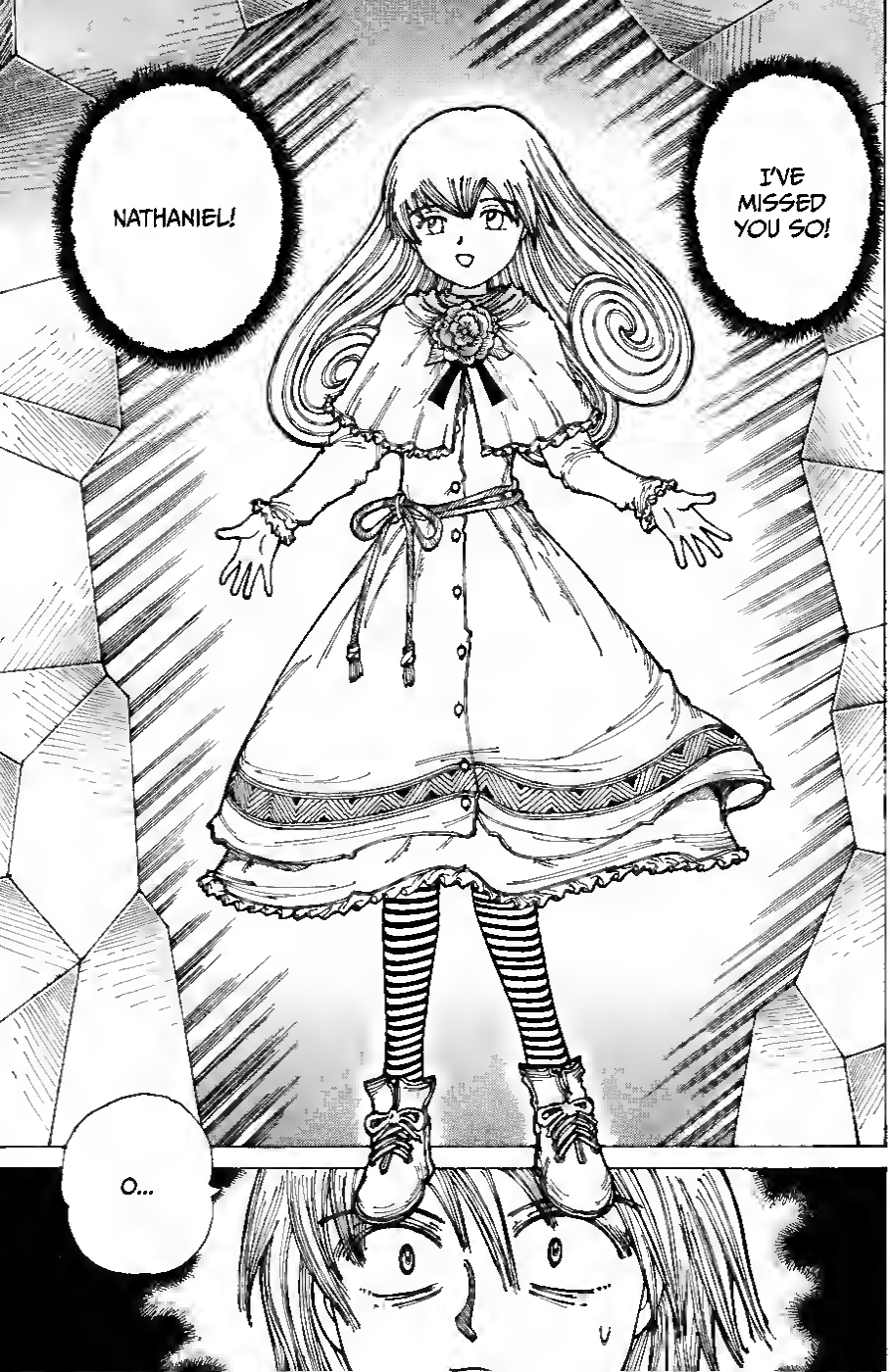
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ

ガラガラ…
…!
WAIT...
ウオー
キシン

ONEE-CHAN, WHAT'S WRONG?!
EH?!
THAT ALCHEMIST IS STILL TRAPPED INSIDE!!
WE'VE GOTTA BREAK DOWN THIS CRYSTAL!!

NATHANIEL...
OPEN YOUR EYES...
NATHANIEL...
WHO'S SAYING MY NAME...?
WHO IS THAT...?
URK...
WHERE AM I...?

A MIRROR...?
COME...
COME HERE...
NATHANIEL!
!!


NATHANIEL!
I'VE MISSED YOU SO!
O...

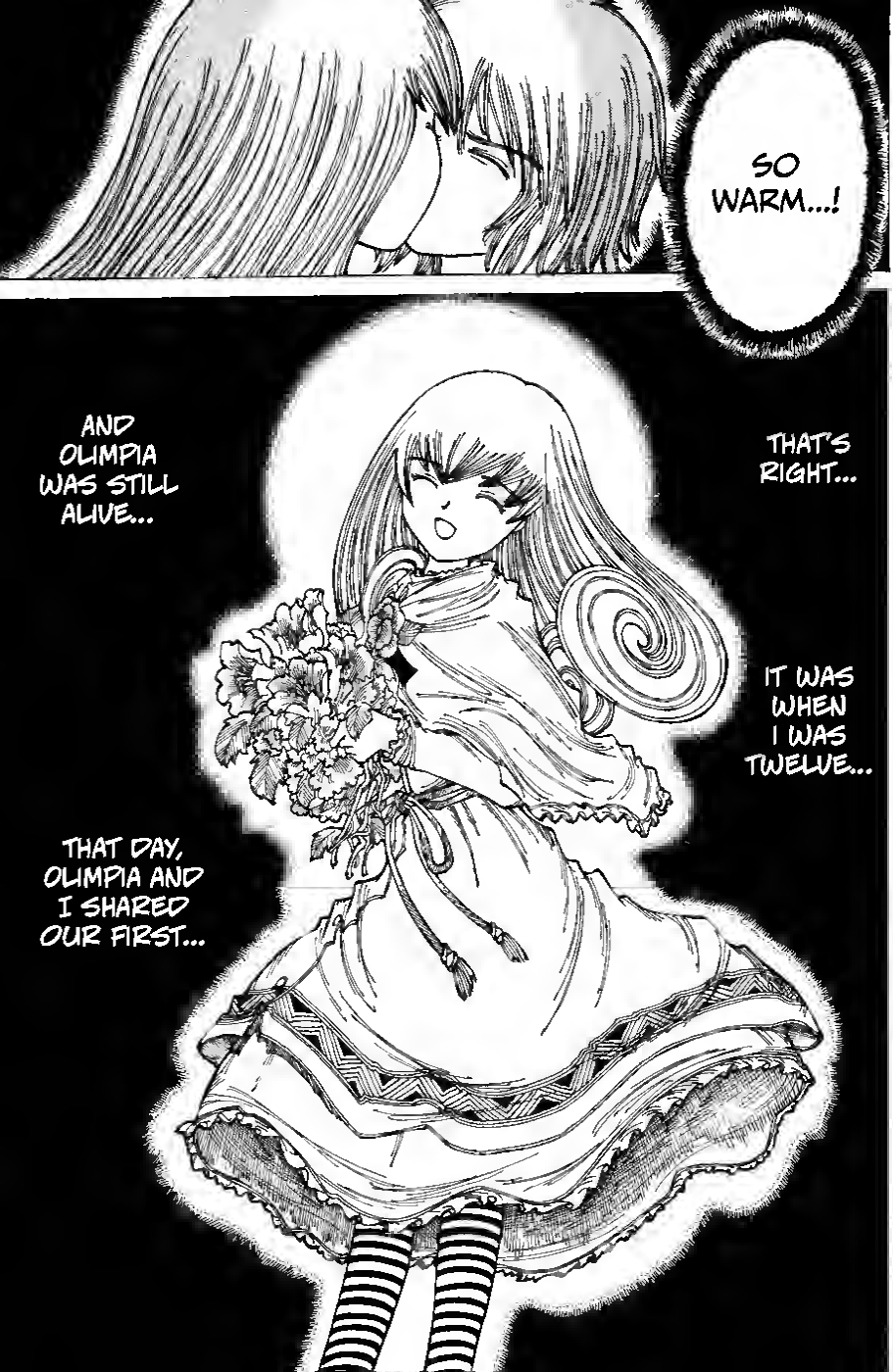
OLIMPIA...!

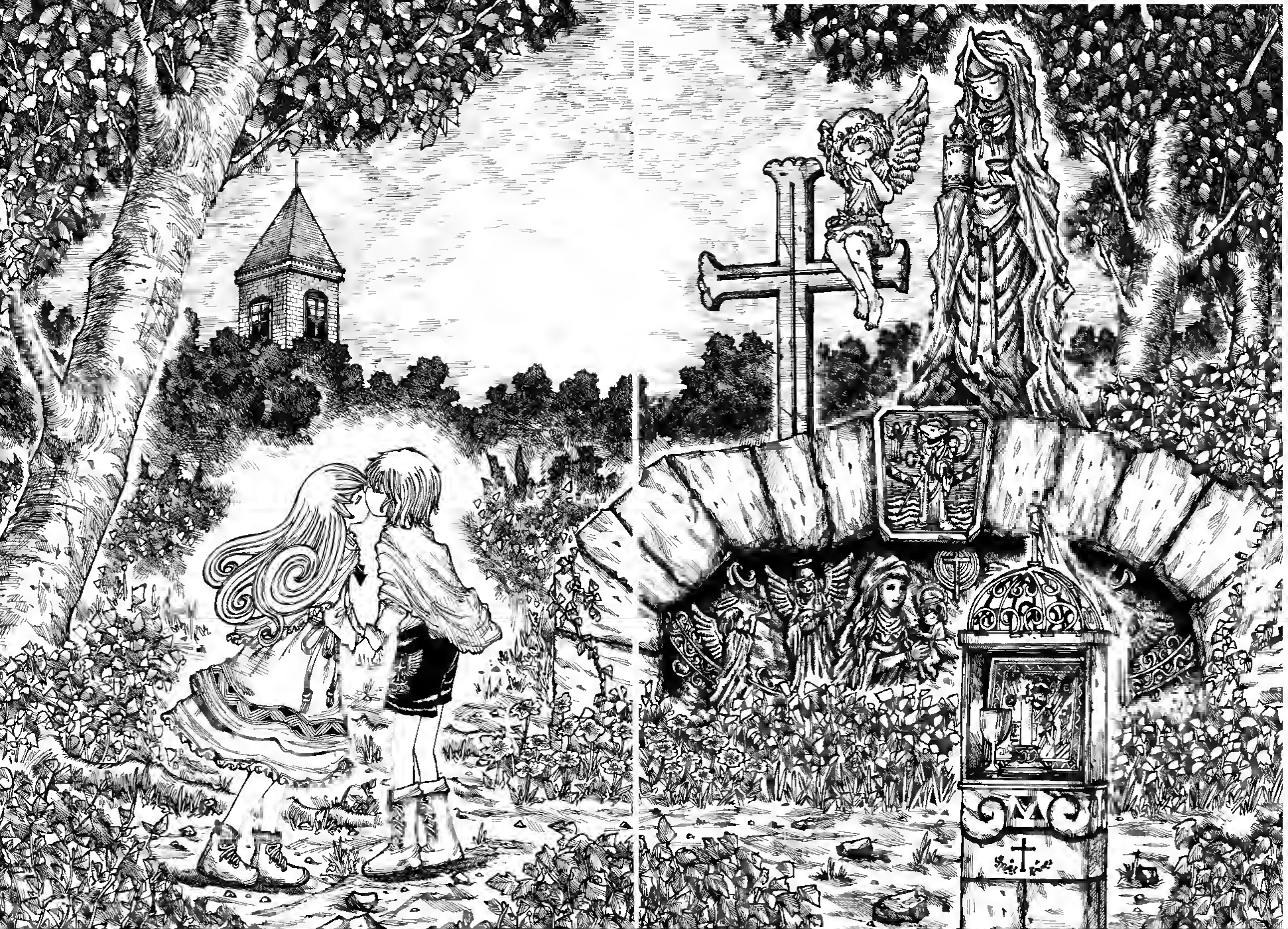
MASTER!!

PLEASE COME TO!
PLEASE WAKE UP!
MASTER!!
MASTER!!
HIS BODY'S GETTING COLDER BY THE MINUTE!
HIS HEARTBEAT'S WEAKENING AS WELL!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO...
IF HE DOESN'T WAKE UP SOON, HE'LL DIE!!

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING WE CAN DO!
EVERY-ONE!
RED...!
COME HERE, NATHANIEL!
TO MY ETERNAL KINGDOM!

EH?!
THERE ARE...
TWO OLIMPIAS?!?
ハイヒール


SO WARM...!
THAT'S RIGHT...
IT WAS WHEN I WAS TWELVE...
AND OLIMPIA WAS STILL ALIVE...
THAT DAY, OLIMPIA AND I SHARED OUR FIRST...



THEY'RE SO WARM...
YOUR LIPS...
REALLY?
SO WARM...!

!
MASTER... I'M SO HAPPY...
THAT YOU'VE COME TO...
SPICA!!

ピキ
パリン
パリン
パリン

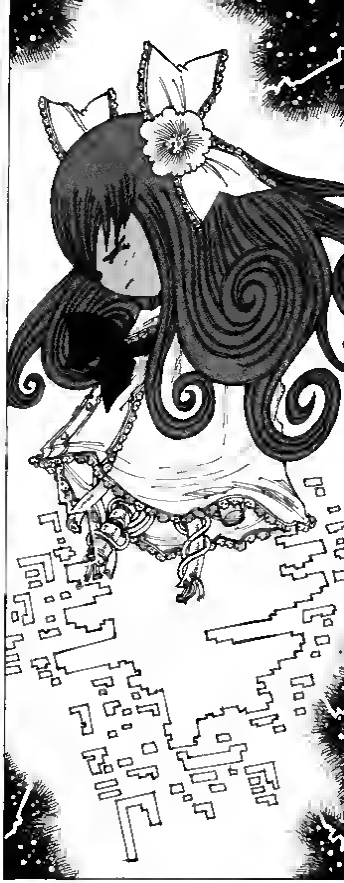
WHAT HAVE I BEEN...
WHAT...
TO GIVE YOU ENERGY...
SAW THAT YOU WERE ENTRANCED BY THE CRYSTAL AND KISSED YOU...
SO THE SPICAS...
I SEE...

THE SPICAS DID...?
A HUMAN REPLICA IS DESTROYED WHEN IT KISSES A HUMAN...
EVEN THOUGH...
MR. ALCHEMIST.
THIS CRYSTAL IS LIKE A MIRROR.
NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL...
IT SIMPLY TAKES HUMAN DESIRES... TO LIVE FOREVER... OR TO SEE YOUR DECEASED LOVER ONCE MORE...
AND SHOWS THEM TO ITS OWNER...
TO ENSNARE HIS HEART AND TAME IT...

YOU COULD HAVE BEEN TURNED INTO A HUMAN REPLICA YOURSELF...
IF THE SPICAS HADN'T SAVED YOU...
...
RED!!
BLUE...
OUR MINDS WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER...
SO PLEASE..
UGH...
BLUE...
ズッ

I BEG YOU...
TAKE OUR MINDS AND COMBINE THEM WITH YOURS!
IF WE DO THAT...
WE CAN BE TOGETHER WITH MASTER FOREVER...
I GOT IT!
RINKO-CHAN!
LINE UP ALL OF OUR BODIES ON THE GROUND FACING UP!
O...
OKAY.
That's the first time she's said my name...

PING
PING
PING
PING



NATHANIEL!
MASTER!!

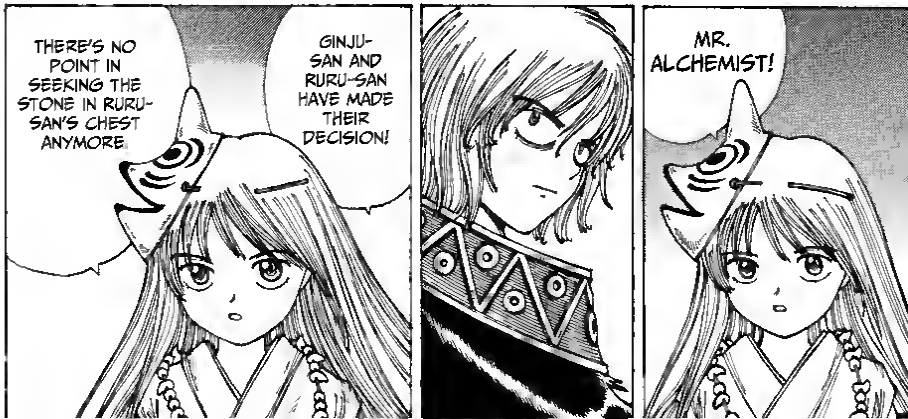
Yume Tsukai
Ch. 32 End

NEXT TIME

The names in this month's chapter comes from Hoffmann's "The Sandman" the young man Nathaniel (Nathanael) and the human automaton, Olimpia. Speaking of human automatons, Dorothy from Big O is great. I want Dorothy to tell me, "You're a louse.", just like she does to Roger Smith.

The Prize Bird winner is A.K. from Kawasaki, Kanagawa ♪

CHAPTER 17
MIRACLE OF THEOTOKOS


THERE'S NO POINT IN SEEKING THE STONE IN RURU-SAN'S CHEST ANYMORE.
GINJU-SAN AND RURU-SAN HAVE MADE THEIR DECISION!
MR. ALCHEMIST!

SO PLEASE...
LET THE PEOPLE ON THIS ISLAND...
MASTER...
ヒュッ

NOBODY MOVE!!
ピタッ

RURU!!
MASTER!!
ONE MOVE, AND THE GIRL GETS SLICED IN HALF.
WE JUST SAVED YOUR SORRY BUTT!!
WHAT THE HELL!!
DON'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO.
I WILL BE THE ONE...
TO DECIDE THE STONE'S FATE!

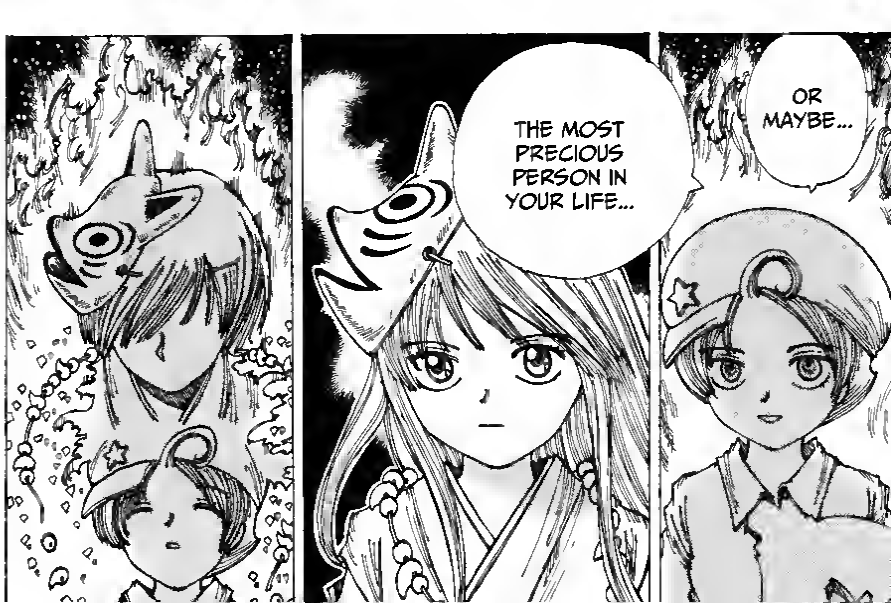
!
WHAT IS IT YOU DESIRE?
ウィーン

RURU-SAN...?!
THAT'S NOT RURU-SAN!
THE ONE WHO'S SPEAKING...
IS PROBABLY THE BLACK STONE HERSELF
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
ONCE YOU HAVE ME...
THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE...
"THEOTOKOS OF MINERAL"!
I CAN BE WHATEVER YOU DESIRE.
FOR I AM...
WHATEVER YOU WANT...

YOUR DECEASED CHILDHOOD LOVE?
IS WHAT YOU DESIRE...

OLIMPIA...
OR MAYBE..
YOU OVER THERE..
EH?
ME?
I COULD EVEN BECOME...
YOUR DEAD BOY-FRIEND...

SATORU-KUN...!


THE MOST PRECIOUS PERSON IN YOUR LIFE...
OR MAYBE...

I CAN BECOME...
ANYTHING AT ALL...
DAD...
BLACK STONE!
ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE BLACK MADONNA ..
RESURRECTS INFANTS WHO DIED BEFORE BAPTISM AND TAKES THEM TO HEAVEN AFTER BAPTIZING THEM...
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY CAN BRING THE DEAD BACK INTO THIS WORLD...
HOW-EVER...

WHAT ALL OF US HERE WISH FOR...
IS NOT THE RETURN OF THE DEPARTED!
BUT NEW LIVES YET TO COME!

BLACK STONE!
WE WANT YOU TO BECOME THE NEW LIFE THAT WILL BE BORN FROM GINJU-SAN AND RURU-SAN...
THAT IS OUR WISH!

RURU!!
17
SEVEN
ARE YOU OKAY?!

I SAW IT...
EH?!
BLOODS
JUST NOW, I HAD A DREAM...
A DREAM OF THE FUTURE...
MANY YEARS FROM NOW, WHEN BOTH YOU AND I HAVE GROWN OLD...
A DREAM WHERE WE TURN BACK TO JUNK AND DIE...
ROSE BUD

ANOTHER DREAM...
BUT I ALSO HAD...
WHERE EVEN THOUGH WE DIED...
WE WERE ABLE TO HAVE A CHILD...
AND THAT CHILD WOULD GO ON TO HAVE MORE CHILDREN...
THE GIRL IN THE BLACK STONE TOLD ME.
THAT IF WE THREW AWAY OUR IMMORTALITY AND ACCEPTED DEATH...
THAT WE COULD HAVE HUMAN CHILDREN...

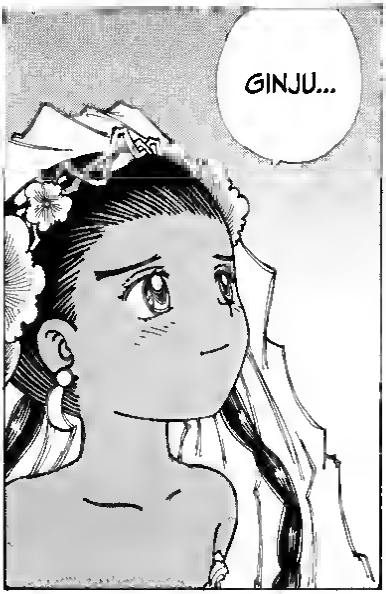
THAT THERE NEEDS TO BE AN END FOR SOMETHING NEW TO BEGIN...
ヒロ
ミツ

パキ
パキ
THUNK
I CAN SEE SOMETHING INSIDE THE LIGHTS!
TURNED INTO A CRYSTAL...
HER TEAR-DROP...

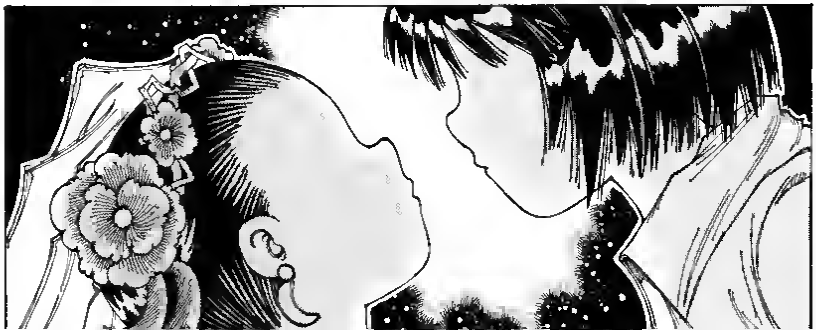
THEY'RE CHILDREN...
THE FUTURE DESCEN-DANTS...
OF GINJU-SAN AND RURU-SAN...
EH?!
SEVEN

DAD!
MOM!
MAKE IT COME TRUE!
ALL OF OUR...
FUTURES!!

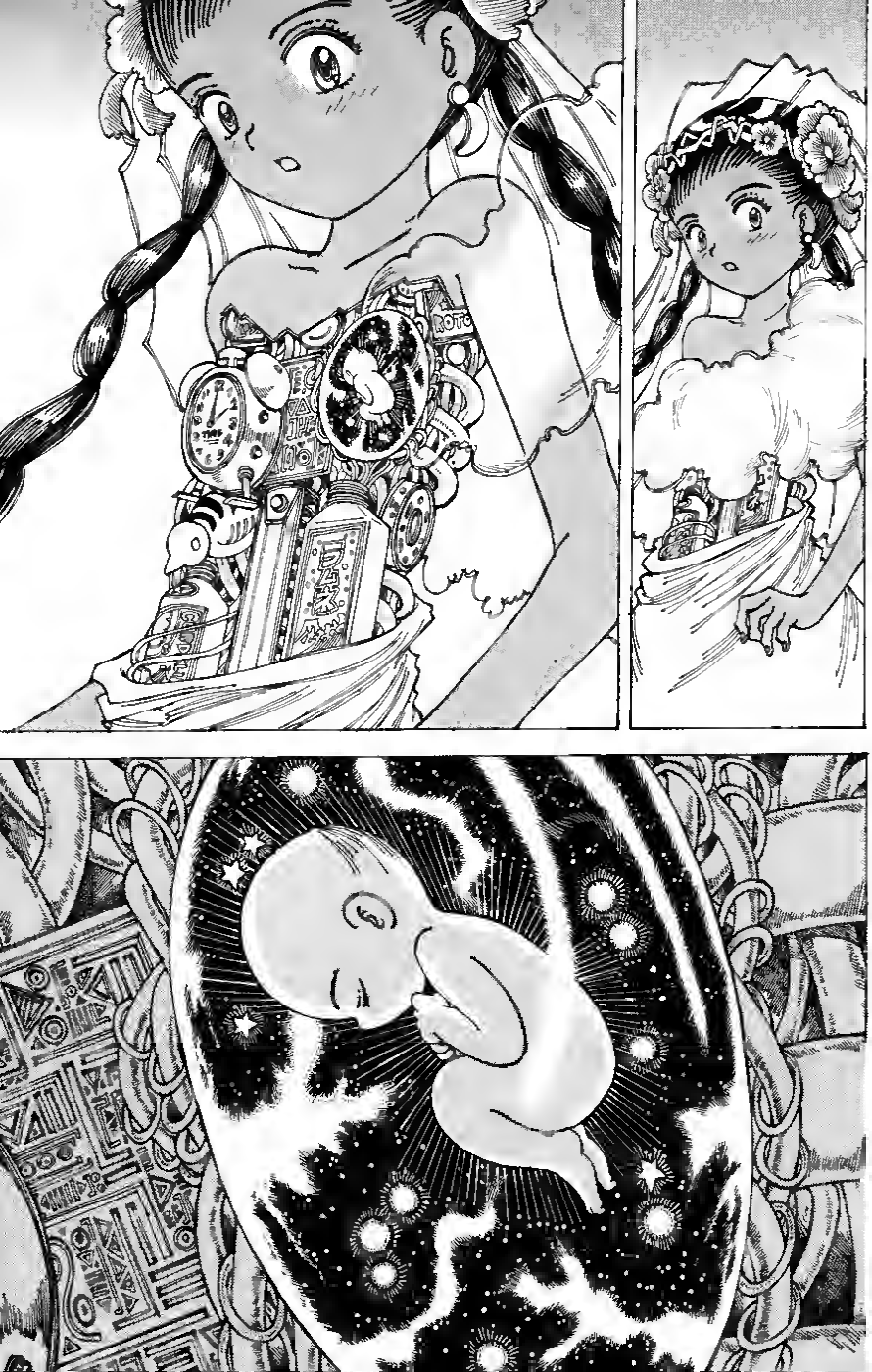
I KNOW...
YOUR BODY IS REALLY... THE SAME AS MINE...
TELL YOU SOME-THING...
I HAVE TO...


GINJU...

BUT THAT MEANS...
THAT THERE ARE NO MORE TABOOS FOR US...



AH!!



IT'S SOFT... AND WARM...
THE STONE CHANGED...
HUMAN CHILD...
YOUR FUTURE... YOU AND GINJU-SAN'S...
THIS MUST BE...
THE STONE HAS META-MORPHOSED INTO FLESH...
ANY MOTHER COULD DO THAT!
AN ORDINARY HUMAN CHILD...
BUT TO USE IT FOR...
THE BLACK STONE CAN CONTROL LIFE AT WILL...
HOW IDIOTIC!

HM?
A MOTHER BEARING A CHILD... IT HAPPENS EVERY DAY...
BUT ISN'T THAT THE TRUE MIRACLE OF LIFE?
SPICA! LET'S GO!
WHAT WE SEEK IS NO LONGER HERE!
Y... YES!
ヒュン
ガガガ

WE WILL FREE THE VILLAGERS TRAPPED IN THE CRYSTAL...
AND THEN...
WE WON'T BE GOING BACK TO THE CHURCH.

I ONLY ENTERED THE CHURCH AND LEARNED ALCHEMY...
SO I COULD BRING OLIMPIA BACK.
BUT THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT ANYMORE.
SHE'S... RIGHT HERE BY MY SIDE.
OLIMPIA...
NO, SPICA.
WILL YOU...
STAY WITH ME?
YES!!
MASTER!

EVERY-ONE!
LOOK!
7
THE STONE THAT STARTED IT ALL, LANDING ON EARTH CARRYING THE SEEDS OF LIFE...
WHAT ALCHEMY CALLS THE "PHILOSOPHER'S STONE" IS...
FROM WHAT I CAN TELL...
IT SAYS LIFE DIDN'T BEGIN ON EARTH...
THERE'S A THEORY CALLED "PANSPERMIA".
THAT THE SEEDS OF LIFE CAME FROM A METEORITE FROM OUTER SPACE.
THEY WERE SENT OFF INTO SPACE BY THE PEOPLE OF ANOTHER WORLD, ONLY TO ARRIVE ON EARTH...
AS THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE!
THE BLACK STONE IN RURU-SAN'S CHEST AS WELL...

Yume Tsukai Ch 33 End

NEXT TIME

I found Verne's Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea and From the Earth to the Moon on the bookshelves at my parents place. These are the Fukuinkan and Obunsha editions which use the 19th-century copperplate illustrations. Beautiful! It's great to go back to a book you loved as a kid and read them again as an adult. Except for the fact that there are no cute girls like Nadia in them.

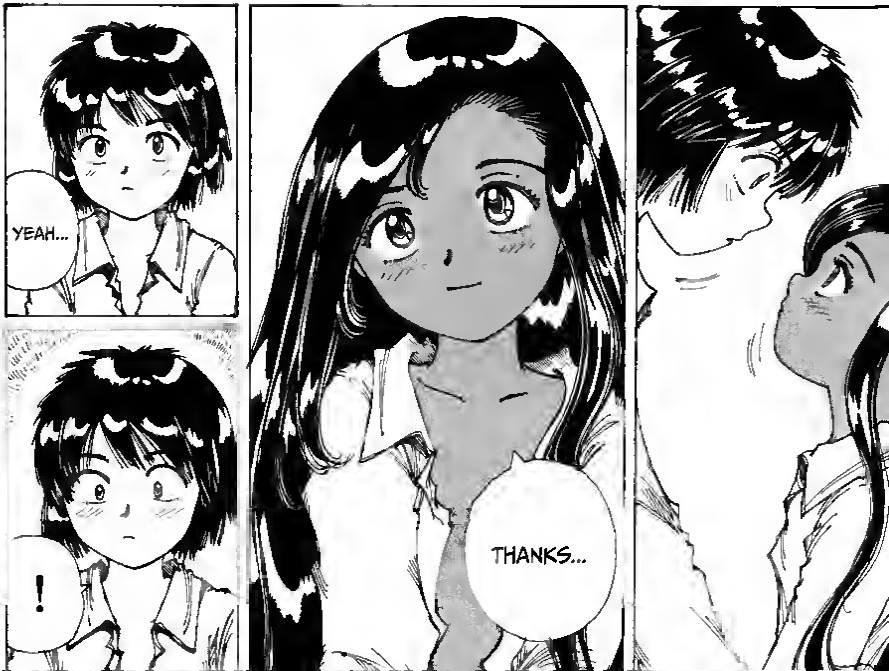
This month's winner's HH from Katsushika, Tokyo♪

CHAPTER 16
OUR FUTURE TOGETHER

GINJU... WAKE UP...
MMM...

GINJU...

BREATHE SOME LIFE IN ME...
MY BODY'S TURNING BACK...
SURE...


YEAH...
!
THANKS...

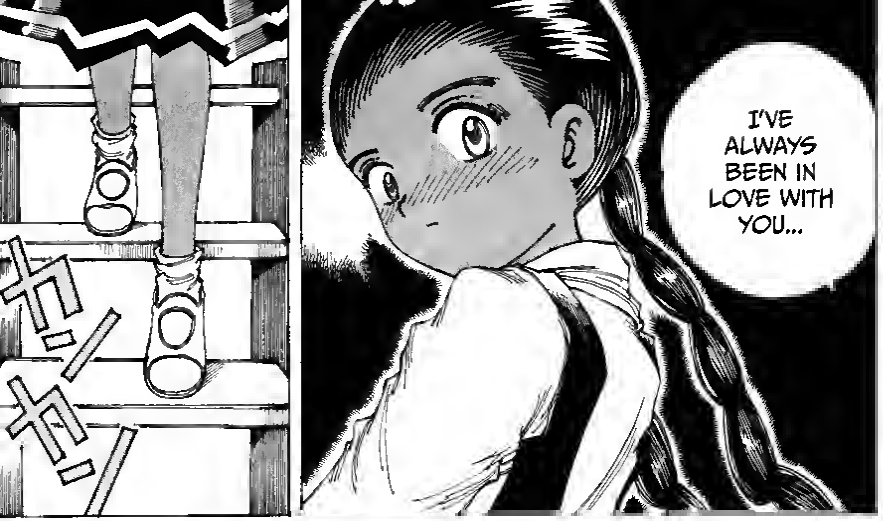
WHAT'S WRONG?
GINJU...
ER...
AH...
GOOD NIGHT!
RURU!
ゴロン

RURU...
WHAT IS IT?
FROM NOW ON...
DO YOU WANNA SLEEP IN SEPARATE ROOMS?
...
WHY?
MILK

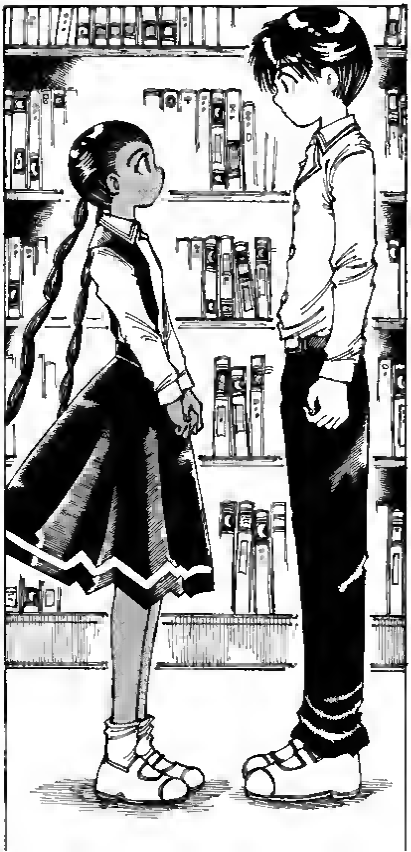
もぐ もぐ…
JUST ASKING!
ALL RIGHT.
ABE!
YES?

HEY, ABE!
...
OKAY!
COULD YOU SHELVE THESE BOOKS AS WELL?

BUT I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU...
I DON'T KNOW IF THAT'S JUST A RUMOR...
EH?!
EH...
I...
IS IT TRUE YOU'RE ENGAGED TO THAT JUNIOR, ABE GINJU?


I'VE ALWAYS BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU...

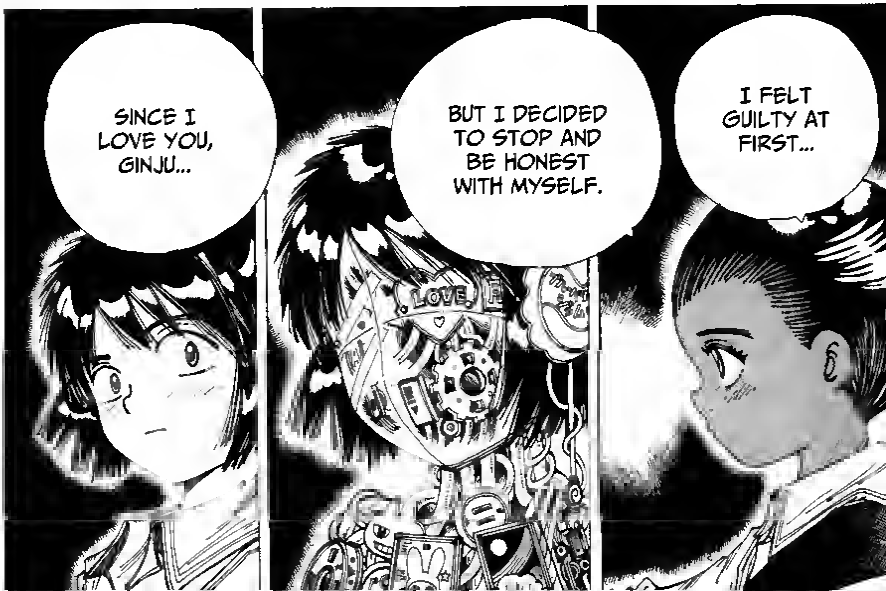
SENPAI!
IF I KISS A BOY OTHER THAN GINJU...
IF YOU... KISS...?

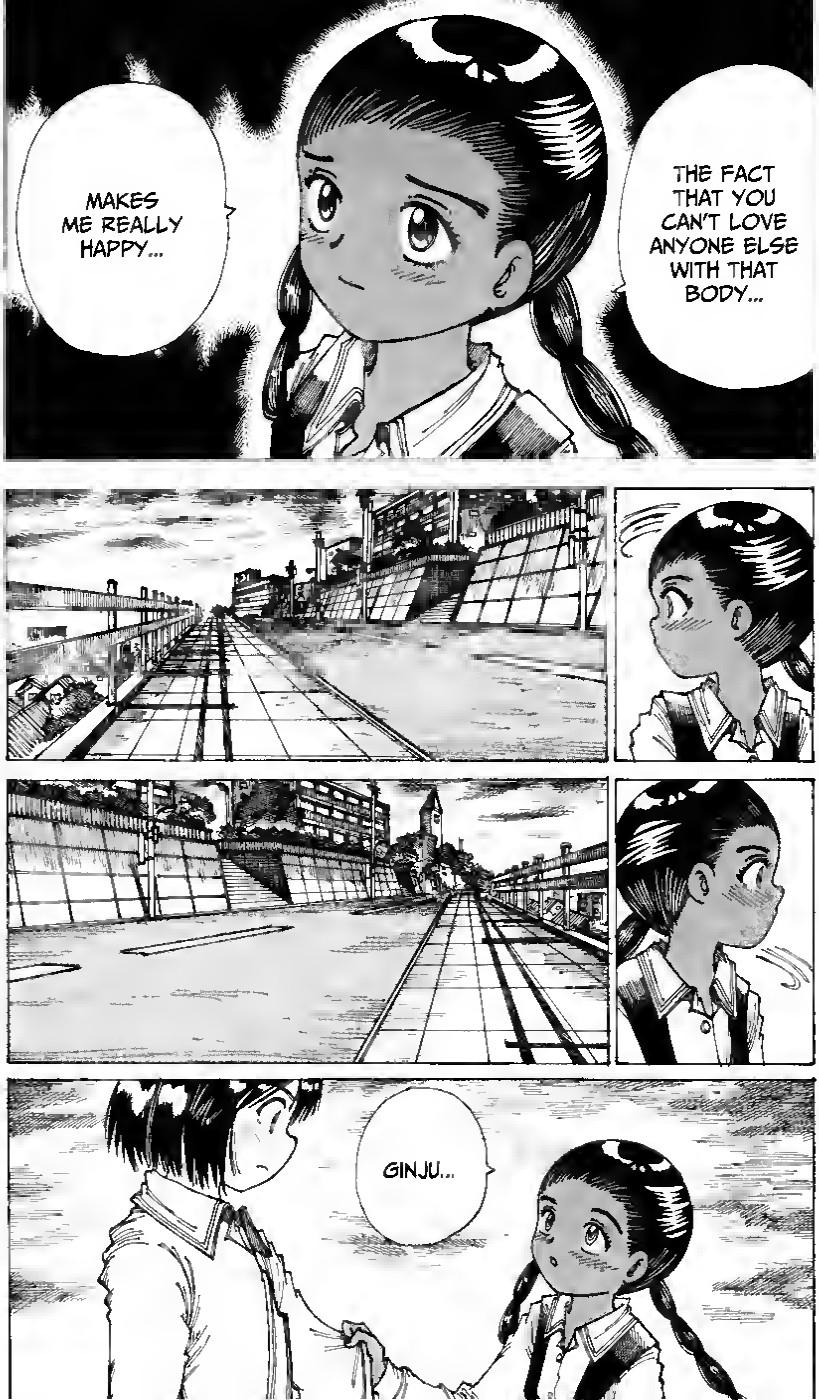


WHA?!
WH...
MY BODY WILL BURST INTO FLAMES AND BREAK DOWN!
GINJU!
THAT'S WHY...
I'M VERY HAPPY BUT...
SORRY!

PFFF
A SENIOR CONFESSED TO ME TODAY!
FALL IN LOVE WITH ANY OTHER GIRL EITHER...
CAN'T REALLY...
AND YOU...
THIS BODY MEANS I CAN'T LOVE ANYONE EXCEPT YOU...
BUT...

SINCE YOUR BODY...
IS MADE OF JUNK AS WELL...


SINCE I LOVE YOU, GINJU...
BUT I DECIDED TO STOP AND BE HONEST WITH MYSELF.
I FELT GUILTY AT FIRST...


MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY...
THE FACT THAT YOU CAN'T LOVE ANYONE ELSE WITH THAT BODY...
GINJU...

WE...
WE...
WE...
WE CAN'T DO THIS!!

EVER SINCE WE GOT BACK FROM MIKAJIMA... NOTHING IS TABOO ANYMORE...
BUT...
I'M REALLY HAPPY, TOO...
WE CAN'T DO THIS, RURU!
NOW WE CAN KISS OR DO WHATEVER WE WANT...
KISSING AND EVENTUALLY HAVING A KID...
BUT TAKING EVERYTHING SO CASU-ALLY...
BUT...
I'M NOT SAYING IT HAS TO BE FOREVER...
LET'S KEEP IT TABOO FOR A COUPLE MORE YEARS...
SO YOU LIKED IT BETTER WHEN THINGS WERE TABOO?
I DON'T WANT THAT AT ALL...

AND AFTER A COUPLE OF YEARS...
WE CAN STOP THE TABOO...
WHEN I'VE BECOME A BETTER PERSON...
THEN WE CAN...
ヒュゥ…
ヒュゥ
AH...

くるくる
くるくる..
...
ペロ
ニーン
!

GINJU!
CAN YOU CUT THEM OFF WITH THESE SCISSORS?
MY BRAIDS...
YEAH!
CLACK
DO ME A FAVOR!
EHH?!?

I L-LOVE YOUR... LONG HAIR DONE LIKE THAT!
I...
I CAN'T DO THAT!
TH... THAT CAME OUT OF NOWHERE...
BUT IF I'M GONNA CUT IT, I WANT YOU TO DO IT...
I LIKED IT LIKE THIS TOO...
IS THAT SO...
AH...
I REFUSE!!
THEN YOU DO IT!
WAIT WAIT WAIT!!
THEN I'LL DO IT MYSELF!
グイッ
ワーッ
ワーッ

I'M...
I'M REALLY GONNA DO IT...
YEP!
CUT IT RIGHT OFF AT THE BASE!
ドキドキドキドキ
THIS...
THIS IS MAKING ME REALLY NERVOUS SOMEHOW...
ドキドキ

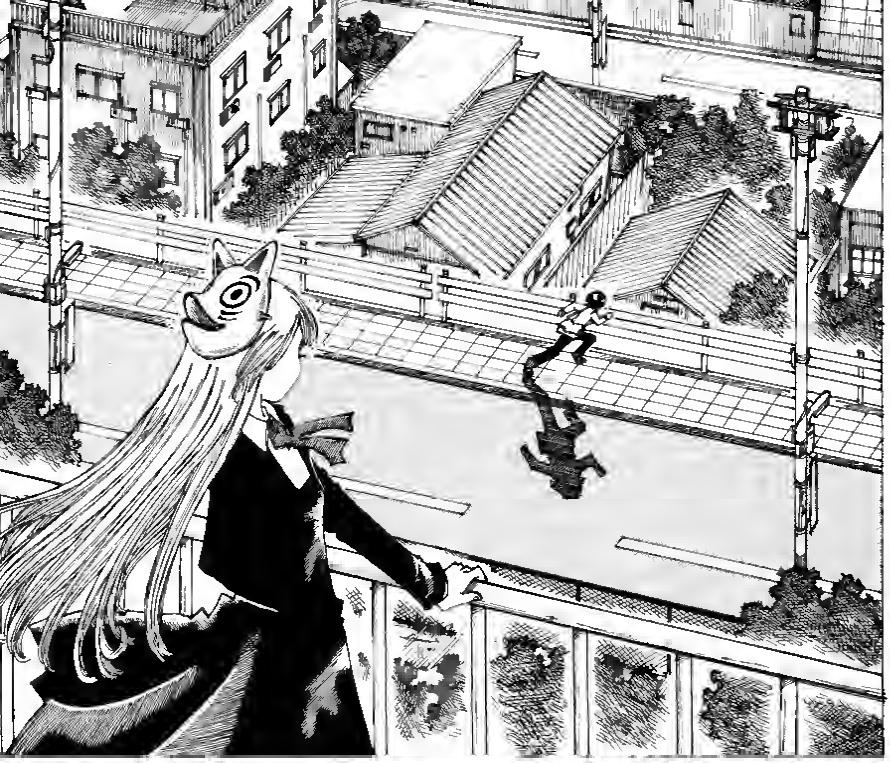
AGH...

GINJU!
THIS SHORT HAIR...
IT'LL BE OUR NEW "TABOO"!
EH...?!
UNTIL MY HAIR GROWS OUT AGAIN...
WE CAN'T KISS OR DO ANYTHING ELSE LIKE THAT!

LET'S FINALLY...
RUSTLE
AND WHEN MY HAIR GROWS LONGER...
HAVE SEX!
I STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED, BUT WHEN IT GETS LONG!
DOWN TO MY SHOULDERS... OR MY CHEST... OR MY WAIST...
BUT DON'T WORRY!
MY HAIR WILL KEEP ON GROWING...
WHEN YOU SAY LONGER...
RURU!
JUST HOW LONG DO YOU MEAN!?

SO
THAT "FUTURE" IS WAITING FOR US!

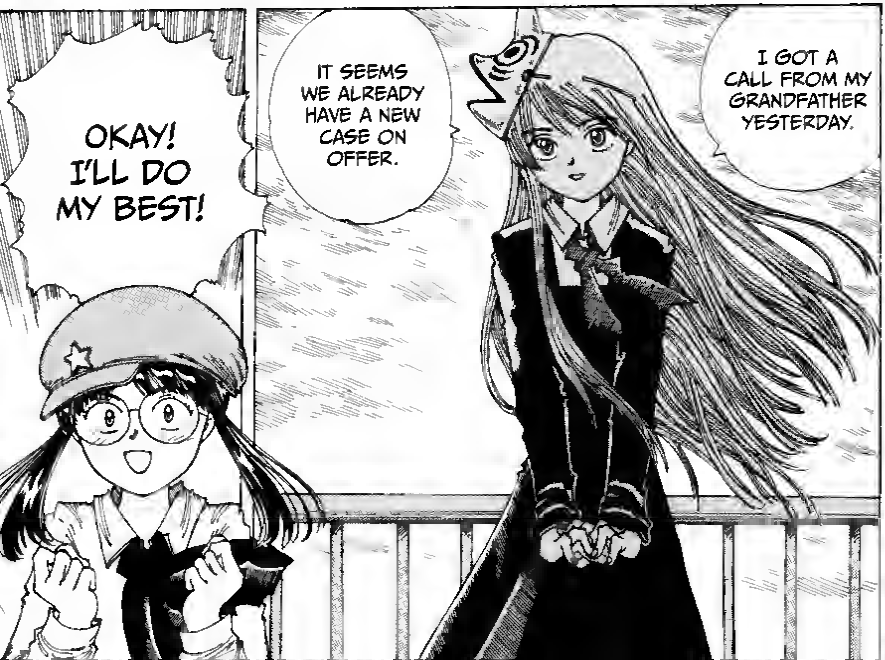
MAYBE.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR A NEW TABOO...
HMMM...
SHORT HAIR LOOKS GOOD TOO...
AH!!
RURU!
WAIT... WAIT UP!

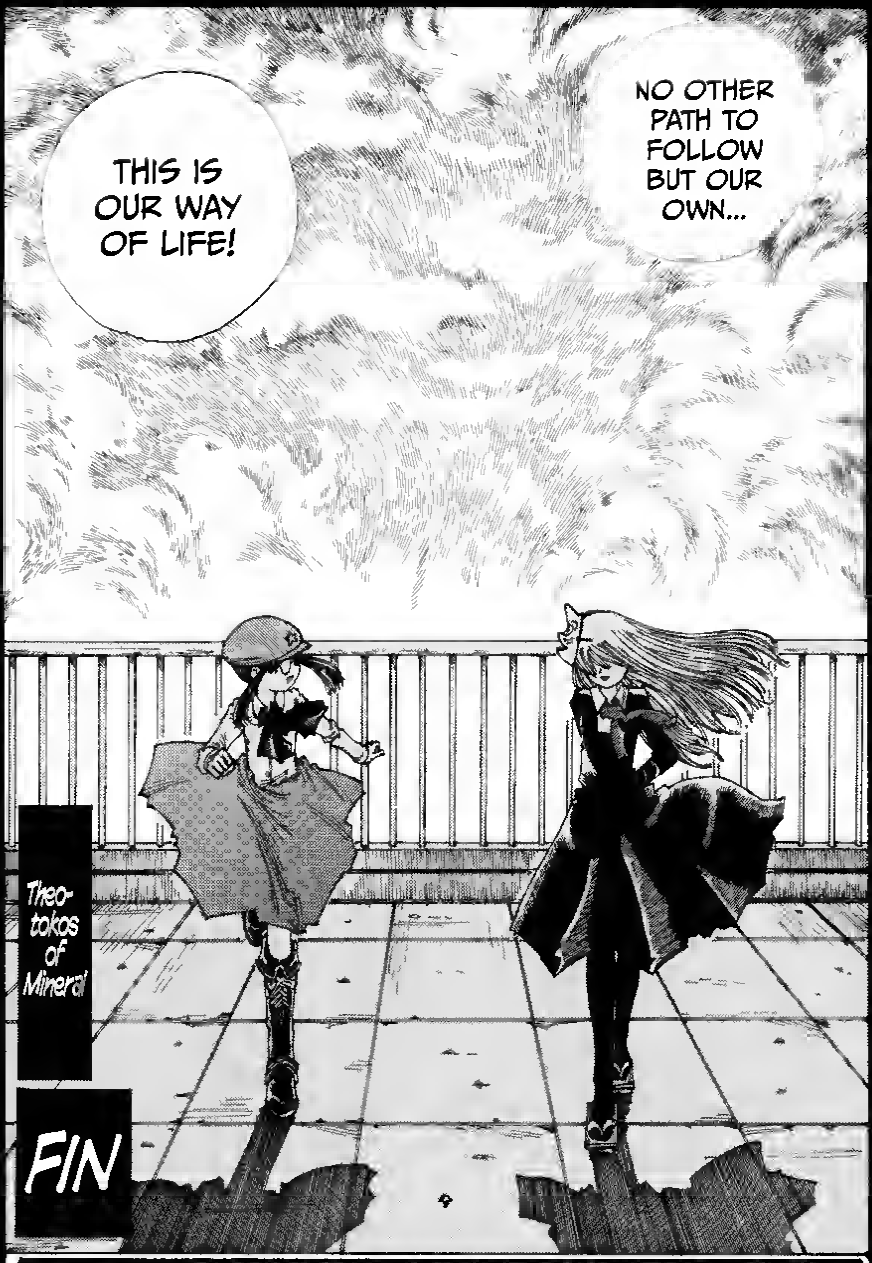


HM?
WHAT'S WRONG, SATOKA-CHAN?
LOOKS LIKE THAT'S ONE CASE CLOSED.

I WOULD HAVE A "FUTURE" AS WELL...
IF SATORU-KUN WERE STILL ALIVE...
I'M JUST JEALOUS... OF BOTH OF THEM.
RESENT THE FACT THAT I INVITED YOU...
DO YOU
TO BE A DREAM CASTER?
WHEN I SEE HOW HAPPY THE CLIENTS ARE...
THAT HE'S GONE...
I END UP REMEMBERING...
IS WORKING AS A DREAM CASTER!
MY ONLY LOVE RIGHT NOW...
NO, NOT AT ALL!!

CHU
HEHE...
WHAT A COINCIDENCE, ME TOO!


I GOT A CALL FROM MY GRANDFATHER YESTERDAY.
IT SEEMS WE ALREADY HAVE A NEW CASE ON OFFER.
OKAY! I'LL DO MY BEST!



Yume Tsukai Ch. 34 End

NEXT TIME

On the topic of crystals, I rewatched episode 35 of The Return of Ultraman, with the Light Monster Pris-Ma. monster that is the crystallization of light, which is pretty abstract. But the final battle takes place in a baseball stadium. I really go for that kind of feel. And on the topic of short hair, I also saw episode 30 of Anne of Green Gables. I love Anne with that short hair.

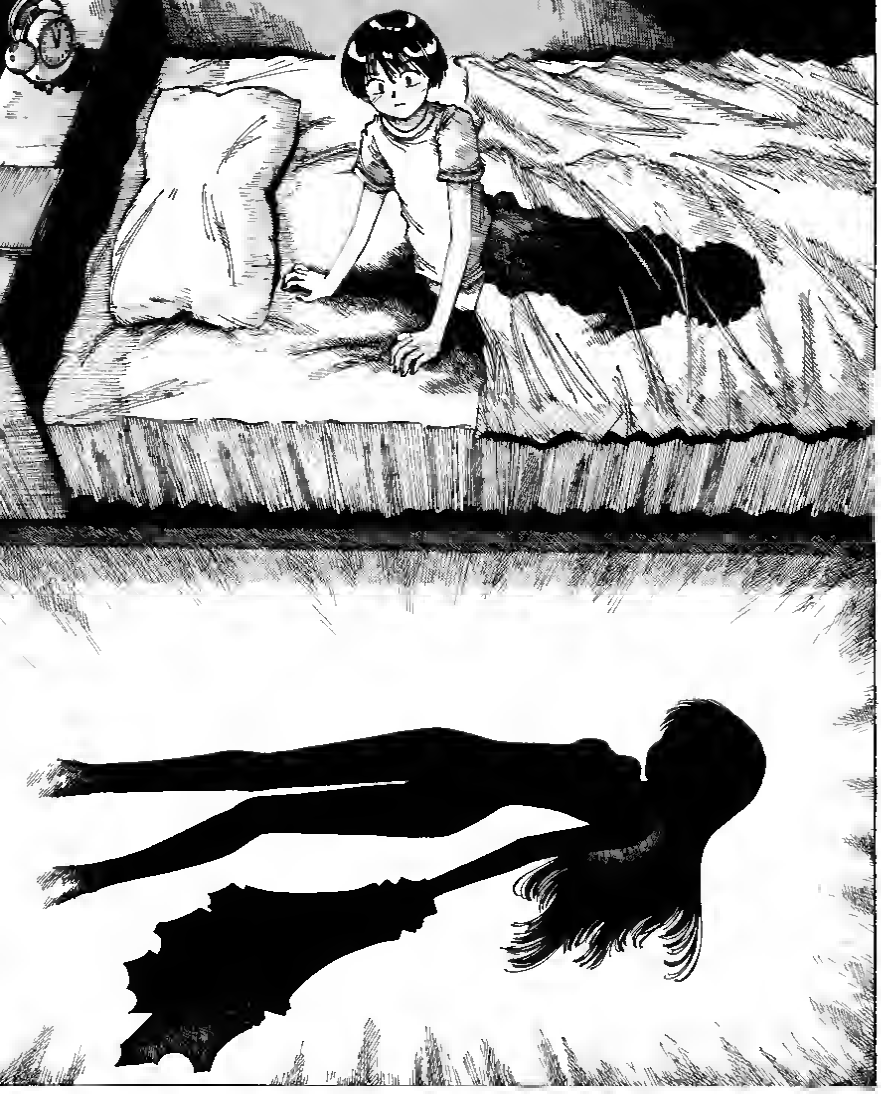
This month's winner is H.K. from Sasebo, Nagasaki.

THE FINAL STORY
SHADOW WOMAN (PT. I)

IT ALWAYS COMES...
AT NIGHT.
IT'S HERE...
TONIGHT...!

STRIKE!
THAT IS, A GIRL'S SHADOW...

BUT THE SOURCE, THE GIRL, IS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.
THERE'S A SHADOW...
SHE'S TAKING OFF HER CLOTHES...



AH...
THE SHADOW IS...

TOUCHING MY SHADOW...!

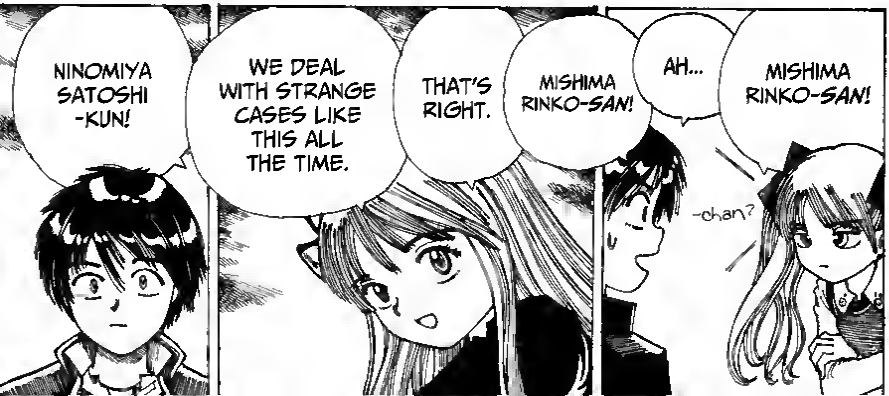
I LOVE YOU...!
BUT IT'S SO RELAXING, AS IF I'VE FELT IT BEFORE..
THEN THE SHADOW WOMAN CARESSES ME...

I CAN'T IMAGINE IT'S FROM SOMETHING LIKE A DREAM...
AND THAT SENSATION IS SO UNUSUALLY VIVID...

I CAME HERE TO CONSULT YOU.
THAT'S WHY...
I'VE BEEN EXPERIENCING THIS EVERY NIGHT FOR A MONTH.

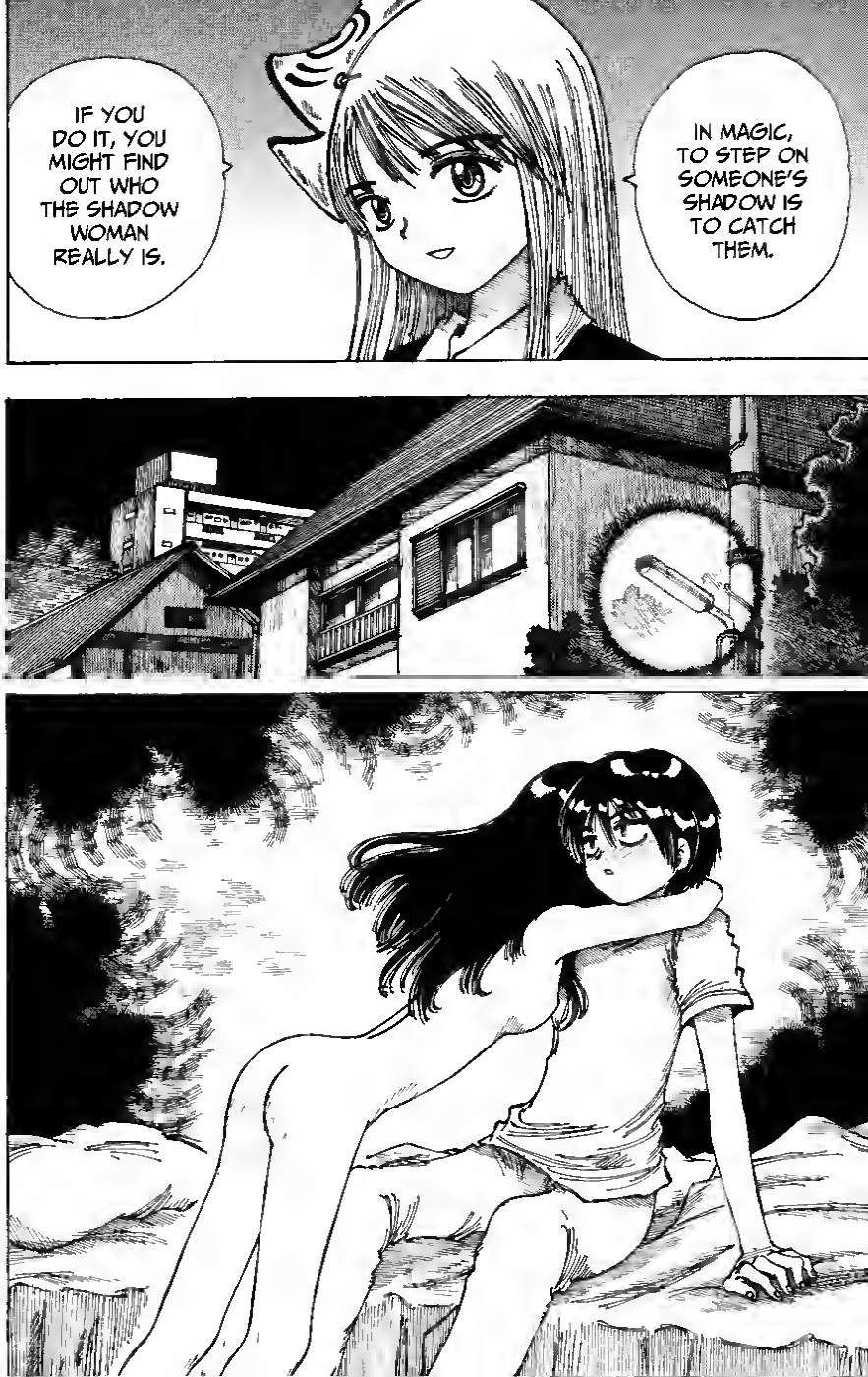
I HEARD YOU HANDLE STRANGE CASES LIKE THESE...
童遊斎おもちゃ店

DREAM CASTERS...
MISHIMA RINKO-CHAN
MISHIMA TOUKO-SAN


NINOMIYA SATOSHI -KUN!
WE DEAL WITH STRANGE CASES LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME.
THAT'S RIGHT.
MISHIMA RINKO-SAN!
AH...
MISHIMA RINKO-SAN!
-chan?

SHE LOOKED IN YOUR EYES AND SAID, "I LOVE YOU!"
THAT "SHADOW WOMAN" OF YOURS...
FIREFLIES, MY LONGING SOUL, RISING AMIDST MARSH.
LOST IN THOUGHTS OF YOU...
SHE DID.
"ARE LIKE MY FEELINGS FOR HIM, ESCAPING MY BODY."
IT MEANS, "THE FIREFLIES IN THAT MARSH..."
IT'S A POEM BY IZUMI SHIKIBU.
HUH?
EHH?!
A GIRL'S UNREQUITED LOVE FOR YOU TURNING INTO A "SHADOW" AND COMING TO SEE YOU EVERY NIGHT...
IN ANCIENT TERMS, AN "EIDOLON"!
FOR EXAMPLE...

I'M PRETTY SURE I DON'T KNOW ANYBODY WHO'S GOT LOOKS LIKE HER..
BY THE WAY... AFTER THE SHADOW WOMAN SEES YOU...
HOW DOES SHE LEAVE?
LET'S SEE... AFTER SHE HOLDS ME...
AFTER A WHILE, SHE LETS GO, FADES AWAY, AND DIS-APPEARS..
THEN LET'S TRY THIS! WHEN THE SHADOW WOMAN LETS GO OF YOU...
STEP ON THAT SHADOW!
SOME BELIEVE CHILDREN'S GAMES LIKE "HIDE AND SEEK" OR "LONDON BRIDGE" ARE CORRUPTED VERSIONS OF BYGONE RELIGIOUS RITUALS...
AND IT'S SAID THAT "SHADOW TAG" IS ONE OF THEM.


IF YOU DO IT, YOU MIGHT FIND OUT WHO THE SHADOW WOMAN REALLY IS.
IN MAGIC, TO STEP ON SOMEONE'S SHADOW IS TO CATCH THEM.

ハハ
ズッ
チッ
SHE LET GO!
スーッ
NOW'S MY CHANCE!!
ダッ
ハハハ
ハハ

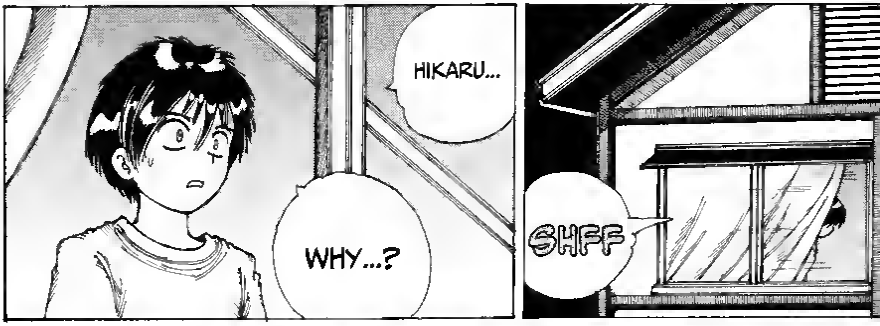
ハヂュ
HEY!
JUST WHO ARE YOU!?
WAIT UP!!
カッ
CRACK

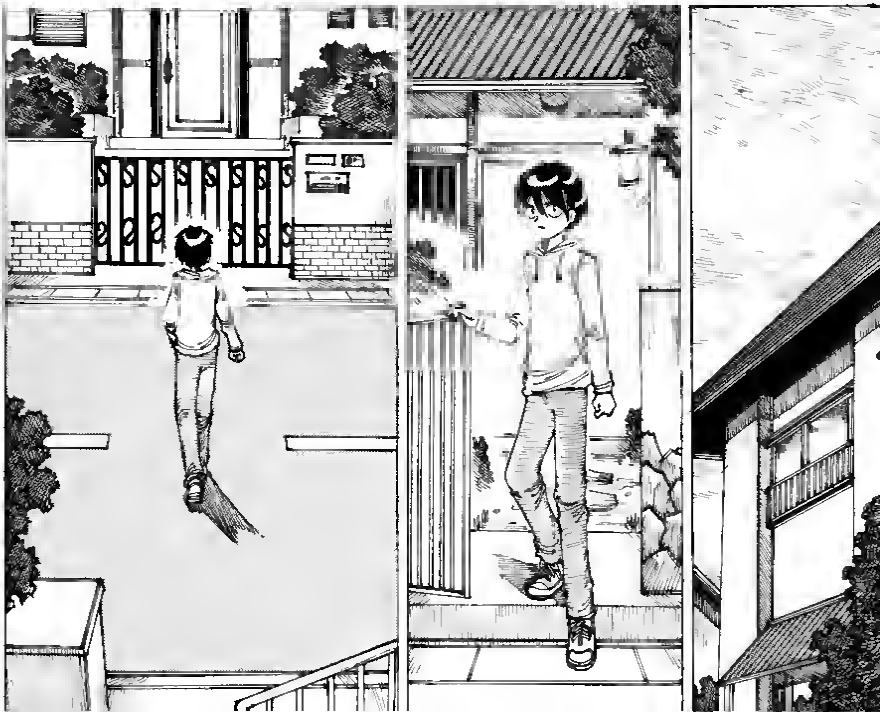
バババ…

HI... HIKARU?
EH...?!
HOP
AH...

HIKARU...?
THEN MAYBE ...
ミヤ!!

AH...


HIKARU...
WHY...?
SHFF



SATOSHI...
COME IN...
KACHUNK
PUSH

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE TALKED LIKE THIS...

THE SHADOW WOMAN THAT SHOWS UP IN MY ROOM EVERY NIGHT...
HIKARU... I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING.
I...
I'VE ONLY BEEN...
COULD IT BE... YOU?
AND IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE I'VE ENTERED YOUR ROOM, BEYOND THOSE CURTAINS...
EVERY NIGHT, WHEN I GAZE AT YOUR WINDOW WITH ITS CURTAINS CLOSED...
EVERYTHING GOES HAZY AND I START FEELING WEIRD...

THAT'S BE-CAUSE...
THAT...
WHY WOULD YOU DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
GAZING OVER AT MY ROOM...
AND SO...
BUT SINCE WE GOT INTO DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS, WE DON'T TALK AT ALL...
WE'VE ALWAYS LIVED WITH OUR HOUSES FACING OTHER...
SO...
AND WE ALWAYS TALKED A LOT UP TO MIDDLE SCHOOL...
SNIFF...
YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH ME...?
COULD IT BE THAT...

THAT... REMINDS ME.
WHEN YOU APPEAR AS A SHADOW...
WHY IS IT A DIFFERENT WOMAN...?
HMM...
I DON'T KNOW EITHER...
BUT IF IT HAD BEEN ME HUGGING YOU...
WOULD YOU HAVE ACCEPTED ME?
IF...
IF YOU ASK ME OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THAT...
IF... IF I TOLD YOU NOW THAT I LOVE YOU...
WOULD YOU GO OUT WITH ME?

EH?
AH!!

THE SHADOW IS...
WHAT...?
EH?!
AH...
WHA?!

HIKARU...!
MY BODY JUST... STARTED MOVING...
THAT WASN'T ME!
THAT...
WHUMP
IT...
IT'S THE SHADOW...

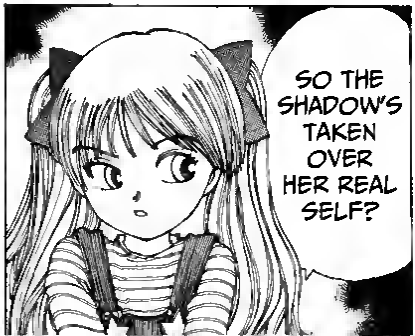
JUST GO HOME...
I'M SORRY...
SATOSHI...
NINOMIYA SATOSHI-SAN, RIGHT?
YOU CAME HERE THREE MONTHS AGO...
AH, I REMEMBER YOU!
IT HASN'T APPEARED SINCE THEN...
DOES THE SHADOW WOMAN STILL SHOW UP?
SO IT WAS ACTUALLY THE GIRL NEXT DOOR?
HUH...

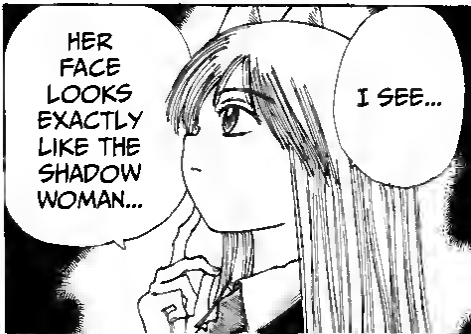
AND SWITCHED TO CONTACTS...
HOWEVER, HIKARU STOPPED WEARING GLASSES AFTER THAT...
I COULDN'T GET A CHANCE TO SEE HER AT ALL...
BECAUSE OUR COMMUTES ARE AT COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TIMES...
EVER SINCE...
HIKARU...?
EH?!
...
WHEN I FINALLY CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF HER...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE...
YEAH.
SATOSHI...

YOU GREW IT OUT...
YOU...
YOUR HAIR...
YEAH...
FOR SOME REASON...
IT'S BEEN GROWING FAST..
I DON'T FEEL LIKE MYSELF...
HEY, SATOSHI.
I'VE BEEN FEELING ODD LATELY...
LIKE MY BODY'S MOVING ON ITS OWN...

ALMOST AS IF THE "SHADOW" IS IN CONTROL...
MY FACE...
HEY, SATOSHI...

HAS MY FACE...
ALWAYS LOOKED LIKE THIS?


SO THE SHADOW'S TAKEN OVER HER REAL SELF?


HER FACE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE THE SHADOW WOMAN...
I SEE...

WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO?
SATORU-SAN...
HOW YOU REALLY FEEL?
IS THAT...
IT'S MY FAULT THIS HAPPENED TO HIKARU...
WE'VE GOTTA CHANGE HER BACK...
WHAT WE SHOULD DO?
EH?
COULD IT BE YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH THE MASK HIKARU-SAN CREATED FOR HERSELF?
THE "SHADOW WOMAN" WHO VISITS YOU EVERY NIGHT...

TO MEETING THE "SHADOW WOMAN" EVERY NIGHT?
YOU WEREN'T LOOKING FORWARD...
BUT CAN YOU SAY DEEP DOWN...
YOU MAY NOT EVEN REALIZE IT...
HIKARU-SAN... AND HER SHADOW...
WHAT HAPPENS TO HIKARU-SAN...
I THINK IT ALL DEPENDS ON WHO YOU CHOOSE IN THE END.

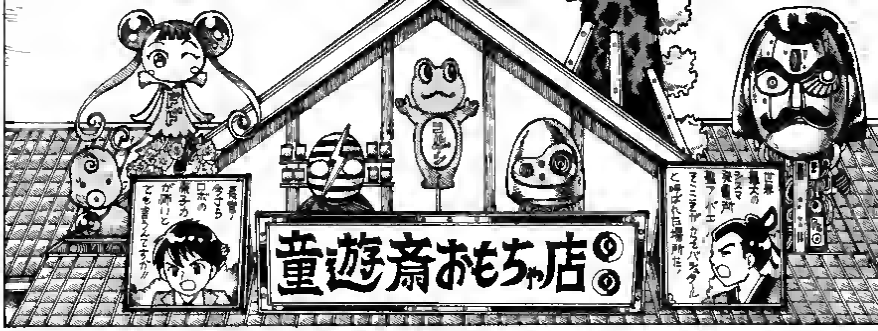
Yuna Tsukai
Ch. 35 End

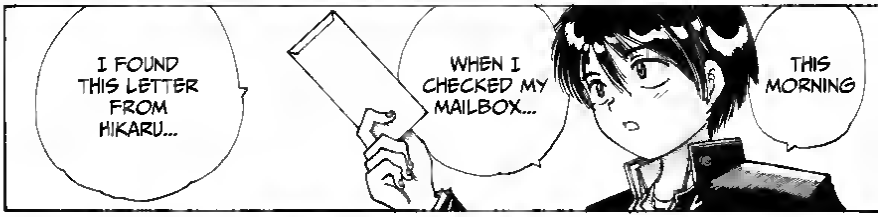
NEXT TIME

It looks like they're showing Kamen Rider X on cable TV now. In college I went drinking with some friends and we were talking about what we would do if we were God. One person said, "I'd go back to WWII-era Nazi Germany and make Adolf Hitler cosplay as Starfish Hitler," which made everybody out of breath with laughter for over 20 seconds.

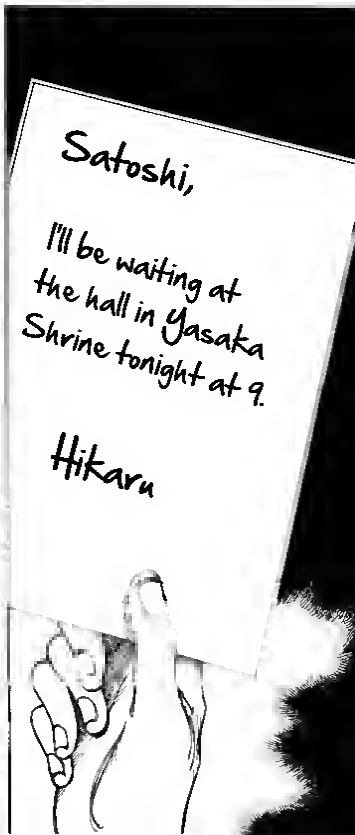
This month's Prize Bird winner is K.K. from Hata District, Kochi♪

THE FINAL STORY
SHADOW WOMAN (PT. II)

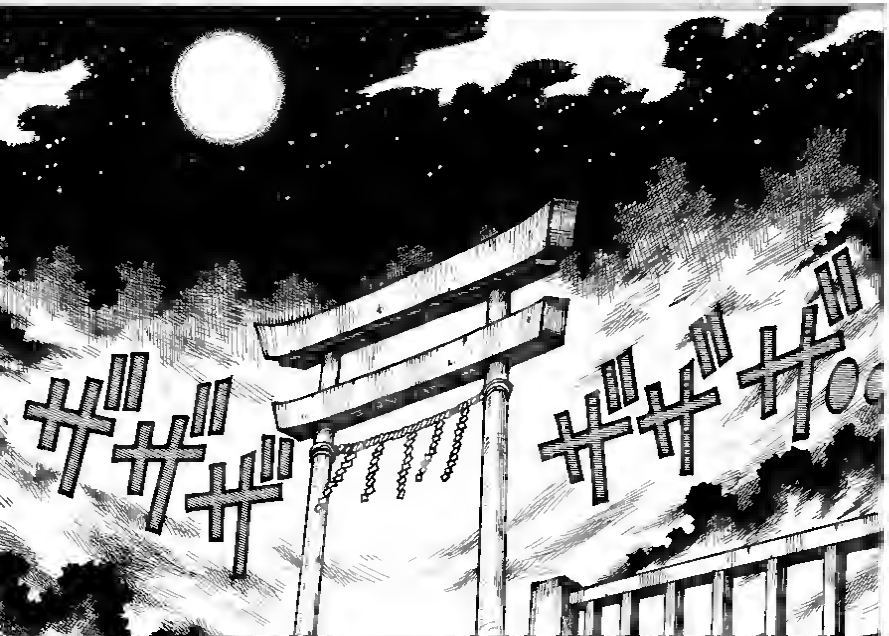

童遊斎おもちゃ店


I FOUND THIS LETTER FROM HIKARU...
WHEN I CHECKED MY MAILBOX...
THIS MORNING

YASAKA SHRINE...
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THIS IS?


Satoshi,
I'll be waiting at the hall in Yasaka Shrine tonight at 9.
Hikaru

ARE YOU GOING TO GO?
TONIGHT AT NINE...
IT'S A NEIGHBOR-HOOD SHRINE.
SHE'LL BE WAITING FOR ME...
YES I AM.
I THINK IT'S BEST YOU GO.
THAT'S TRUE.



SATOSHI...

SATOSHI...
I'VE BEEN WAITING...

HIKARU...
YOU'RE NOT THE REAL HIKARU!
G... GET AWAY!
YOU'RE HER SHADOW!
AND HOLD ME TIGHT...
COME OVER HERE...
THE REAL HIKARU...
YOU MEAN THE ONE WHO WORE THESE GLASSES...?
WHO'S BEEN TAKEN OVER BY HER OWN SHADOW...
BUT RIGHT NOW, SHE'S THE ONE...
THAT'S RIGHT... I'M HER SHADOW...
CLACK

AND YOU...
YOU LOVE ME, HER SHADOW...
MORE THAN YOU LOVE HER!
RIGHT?
I...
I DON'T...
REALLY LOVE...
LOOK AT YOUR OWN SHADOW.
EH?
MY SHADOW IS MOVING...

SEE...?
NO MATTER WHAT YOU MAY SAY...
YOUR SHADOW DOESN'T LIE.
YOU WANT TO BE WITH ME...

RIGHT NOW, YOU DON'T LOVE THE REAL HIKARU.
B... BUT...
I NEVER SAW HIKARU IN THAT WAY, EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS...
!
THAT'S A LIE...
YOU'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH HER BEFORE!
EH?
I HAVE...?
BACK THEN...
I SAW IT.

SO YOU'VE FORGOTTEN.
THE FACT THAT YOU DON'T REMEMBER...
MEANS RIGHT NOW, YOU DON'T LOVE HER.
AND SO...
YOU'RE MINE NOW...
ギュッ
ギュッ
ギュッ

COME!
WE'RE GOING
TO MY WORLD...!
!
WHO IS IT?!

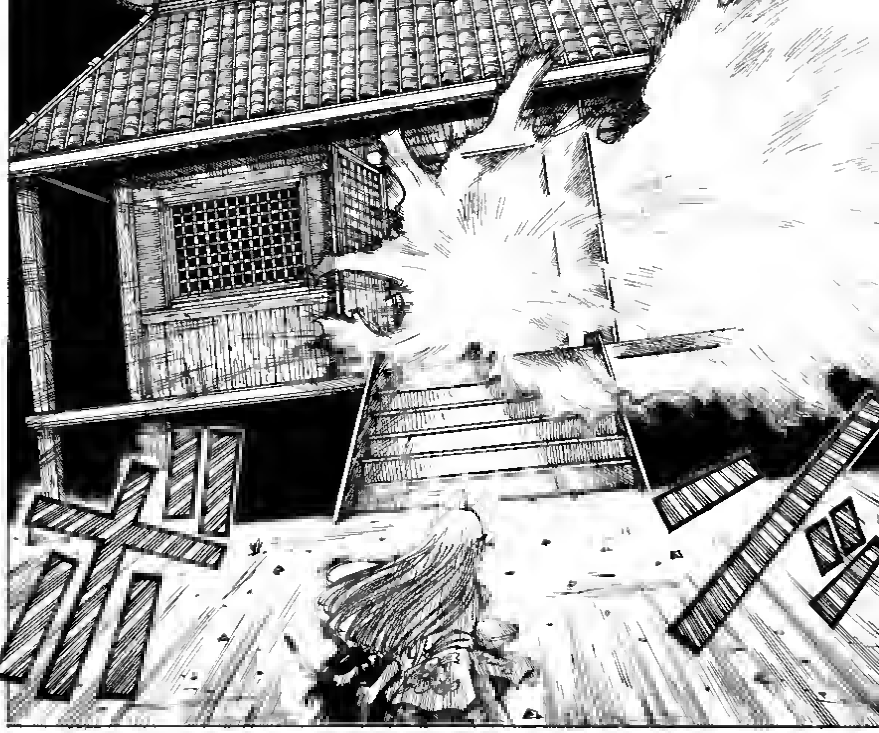
THE DREAM CASTERS!
GUARDING THE RIFT BETWEEN REALITY AND BEYOND...
ズズズ...
DON'T INTERFERE!

ガッ
ギギギギギ…

RINKO!!
NOW YOU CAN'T MOVE!
HEH HEH...
ギリ
GUH...!

ズズズズズズ
ズズズズズズ
ズズズズズズ

AGH...!
FWOOM
NOW!!
THE SHADOW'S DIRECTION CHANGED!



COUGH COUGH
T... TOUKO -SAN!

IT LOOKS LIKE HER.
HUH?
THERE WAS AN OLD HINA DOLL ON THE GROUND.
EH?
SATOSHI-SAN!
I CAN SEE IT...
AH...
THE "SHADOW WOMAN"...
LOOK AT THIS!
ONEE-CHAN.

ALL THESE DOLLS...
I COULDN'T SEE THEM IN THE DARK...
IT LOOKS LIKE OLD DOLLS ARE PLACED AS OFFERINGS HERE.
UGH...

AM I HERE...?
EH?
WHY...
HIKARU!
SATOSHI...
DO YOU REMEMBER THIS DOLL?
HIKARU-SAN.
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'S BACK TO HER OLD SELF.
SO THAT'S IT...
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS DOLL WAS THE "SHADOW WOMAN" ALL ALONG.
YASAKA SHRINE TAKES OLD DOLLS FOR ENSHRINEMENT, SO WE DONATED IT.
WE HAD THIS HINA DOLL AS A KID!
AH...!

SATORU-SAN!
I HEARD YOU TALKING WITH THE SHADOW WOMAN IN THE HALL.
SHE GOT ANGRY BECAUSE YOU SAID YOU NEVER SAW HIKARU AS A GIRL.
AND CALLED YOU A LIAR!
WELL THEN...
LET'S HAVE THIS DOLL...
SHOW US THAT MEMORY YOU HAD FORGOTTEN!
ドン
ドン

SURYA! DIVINE OFFERING!
THE PRESENT IS BUT A DREAM...
TRUTH LIES IN THE DREAMS OF DARK!!

HINA DOLL...?

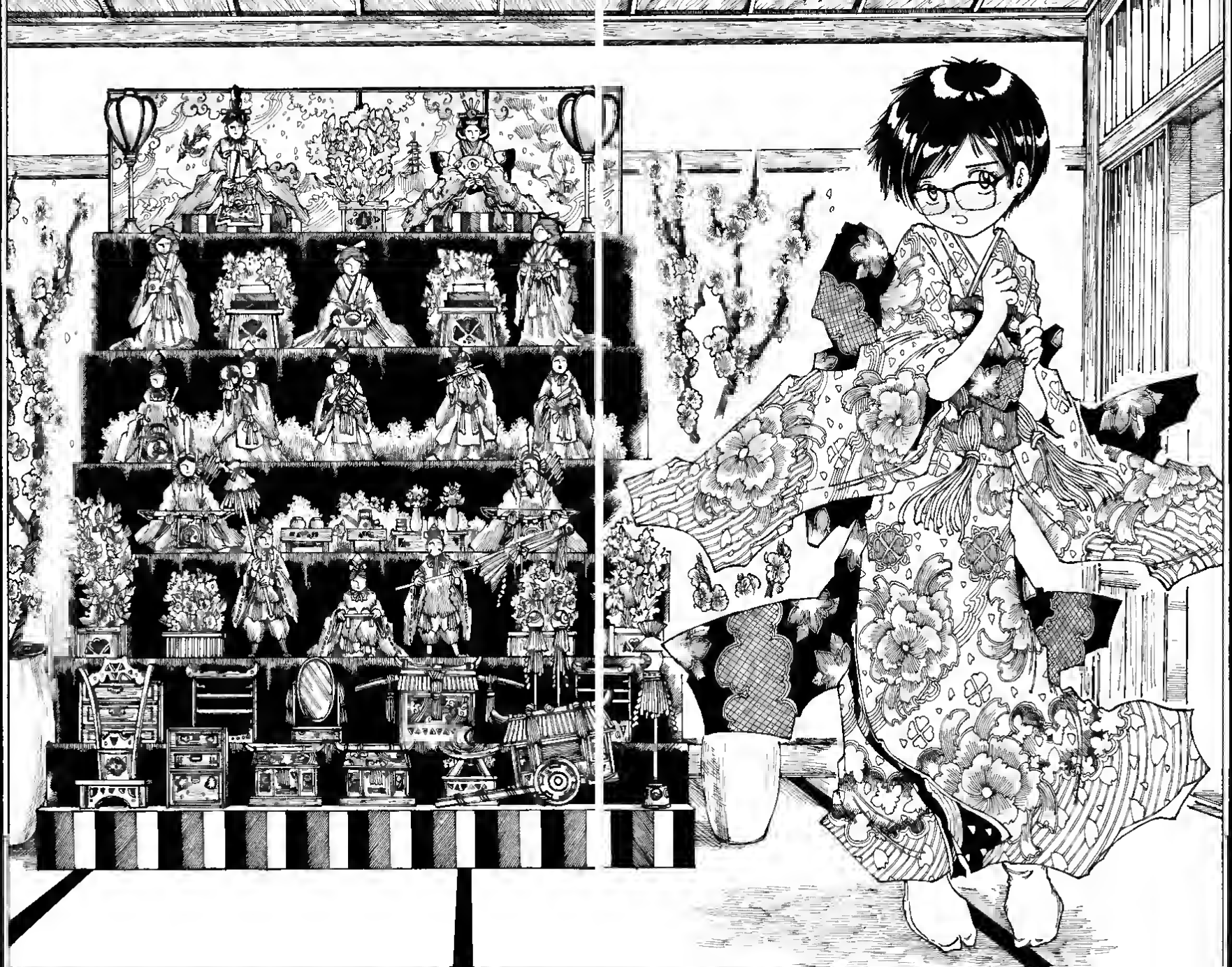
ON MARCH 3RD...

IT WAS BACK IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...

THAT'S RIGHT...

HIKARU'S MOM TOLD ME TO COME OVER FOR THE HINA FESTIVAL...
I WENT OVER HALFHEARTEDLY EVEN THOUGH IT'S A FESTIVAL FOR GIRLS...
COME INSIDE!
SATOSHI-KUN.
THANKS FOR COMING OVER.

WHY ARE YOU HERE?!
AGH!!
SATOSHI!
YOUR MOTHER INVITED ME OVER...
WHY...?
WHAT THE HECK?!
BLEHHH
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
HEY!
YOU HADN'T COME OVER TODAY..
I WISH...
H... HOLD ON...!
MOM!!
GRIP
COME ON.
STOP HIDING BEHIND THAT DOOR...



AH, GOSH!
DON'T LOOK OVER HERE!
THAT'S RIGHT... HOW COULD I FORGET?
THAT'S WHEN I FELL IN LOVE WITH HIKARU...

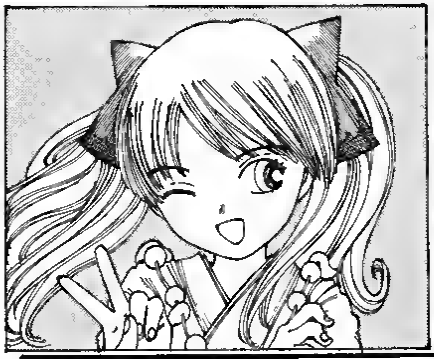
ハナ
チビ
IT ALL MAKES SENSE!
FROM ITS STAND, THE HINA DOLL...
SAW IT ALL BACK THEN!

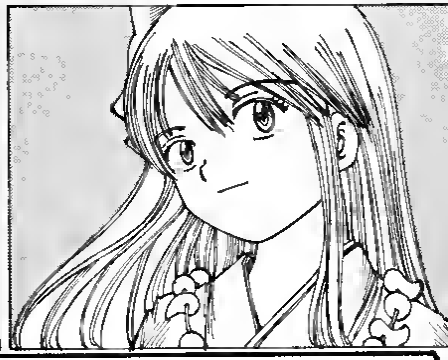
EH?
HIKARU...
HIKARU!
HER HAIR...
AH...
AH...
MY EYES...
AH...!
ハサハサハサ…

RAISE YOUR CHIN!
HIKARU!
HERE!
SATOSHI...
THANKS...
MMM...

HIKARU LOOKS REALLY CUTE...
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
W... WHY? IS IT BECAUSE I WAS THINKING ABOUT THE HINA FESTIVAL?
LOOKS LIKE THE DOLL'S SPIRIT HAS LEFT HER.
THIS DOLL APPROACHED SATOSHI-SAN AS THE "SHADOW WOMAN" TO TEST HIS FEELINGS FOR ITS OWNER, HIKARU-SAN, AS HE GREW MORE AND MORE DISTANT FROM HER.
NATURALLY... IF SATOSHI-SAN HAD CHOSEN THE SHADOW WOMAN OVER HIKARU-SAN...
SHE WOULD HAVE TAKEN YOU TO THE "OTHER SIDE"... QUITE THE OVERKILL.

SATOSHI...
I'LL GIVE UP ON YOU...
IF YOU TELL ME THAT YOU DON'T LOVE ME...
I'VE LOVED YOU EVER SINCE WE WERE KIDS...
SO TELL ME!
DO YOU LOVE ME, TOO?
WELL... YOU KNOW...
N... NO...
IF YOU LOOK AT HIS SHADOW!
LOOK♡
IT'S EASY TO TELL..
THERE'S NO NEED FOR WORDS.





Yume Tsukai Ch 36 End

THE END

That's right. This is the end. Which means that starting next month I won't have any deadlines for a while. I think I'll relax and watch some shows. Especially the Giant Robo OVA! (← I keep going on about it. Well I love it.) It's a trite way to go out, but thank you for faithfully reading all this time. Please look forward to Mr. Ueshiba's next work. (← Don't add that part in yourself!)

The Prize Bird winner is S.T. from Kitagunma District, Gunma♪